School
スクールランブル
小林尽
Vol.
10
Jin Kobayashi

School Rumble

10

Jin Kobayashi

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY
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Honorifics Explained

In this manga book, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in our manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

Cultural Note

To preserve some of the humor found in *School Rumble*, we have elected to keep Japanese names in their original Japanese order—that is to say, with the family name first, followed by the personal name. So when you hear the name Tsukamoto Tenma, Tenma is just one member of the Tsukamoto family.

School Rumble 10

Jin Kobayashi

Mikoto

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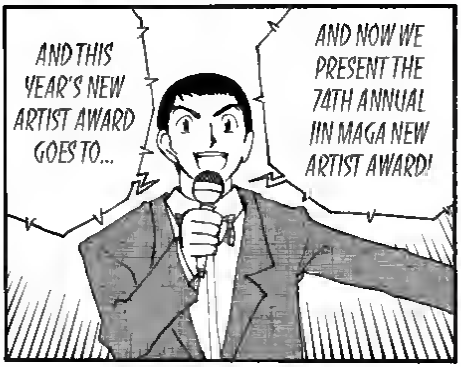
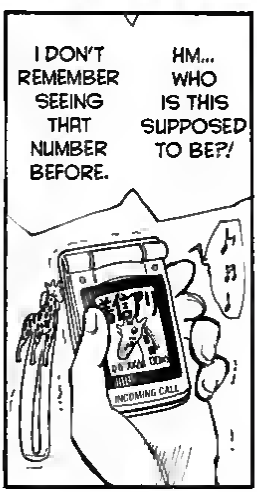
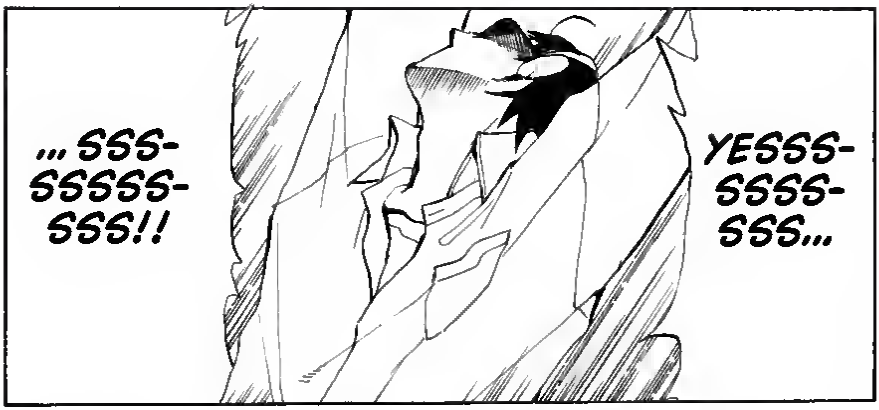
Satsuki

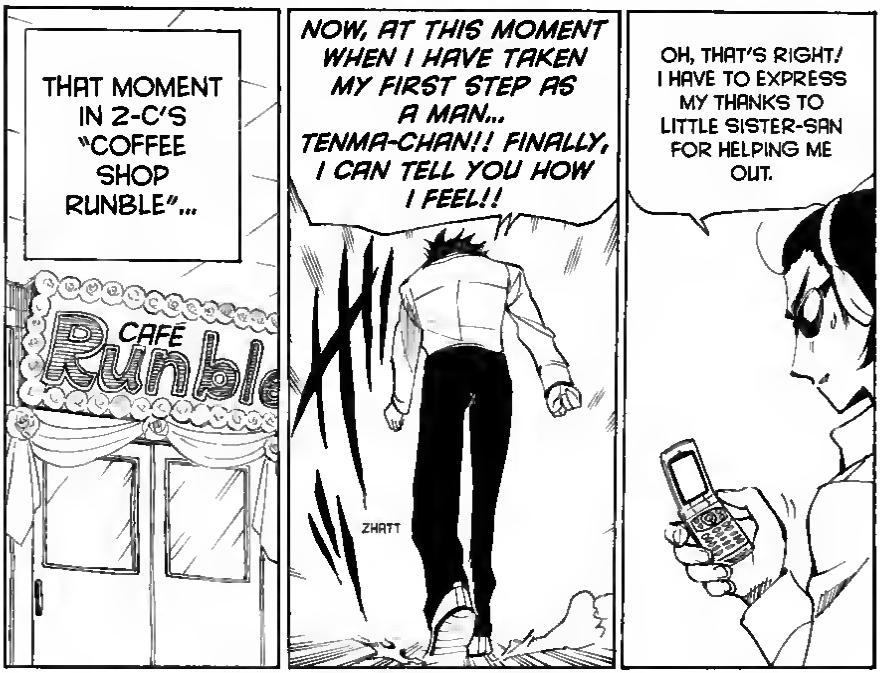


AH! TAZAWA-KUN? WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?! WE JUST HANDED OUT THE NEW ARTIST PRIZE, AND SOME OLD GUY NAMED NAKAMURA CAME AND TOOK THE PRIZE IN YOUR PLACE!
YEAH, IT'S ME.
チャク CHK
HUH? YOU'RE SAYING YOU NEVER HEARD THE PRIZE WAS BEING HANDED OUT TODAY? IT DOESN'T MATTER! YOU WON!! AW, LOOK! THE CEREMONY IS OVER ALREADY!

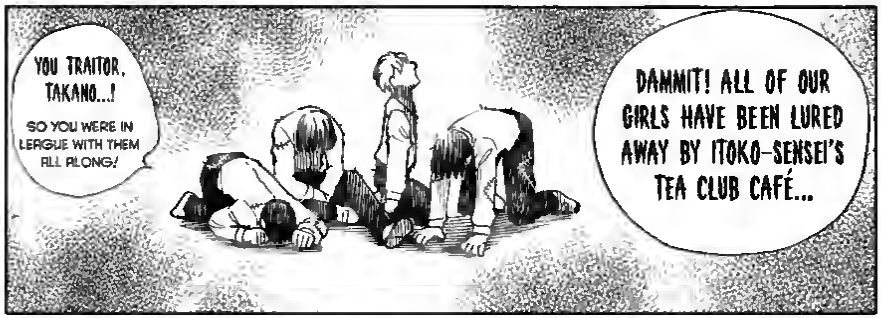


#120 NAUGHTY MARIETTA

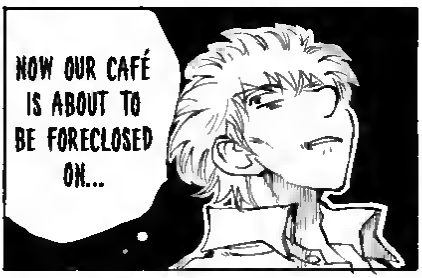



THAT MOMENT IN 2-C'S "COFFEE SHOP RUNBLE"...
CAFÉ Runble
NOW, AT THIS MOMENT WHEN I HAVE TAKEN MY FIRST STEP AS A MAN... TENMA-CHAN!! FINALLY, I CAN TELL YOU HOW I FEEL!!
ZHATT
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! I HAVE TO EXPRESS MY THANKS TO LITTLE SISTER-SAN FOR HELPING ME OUT.

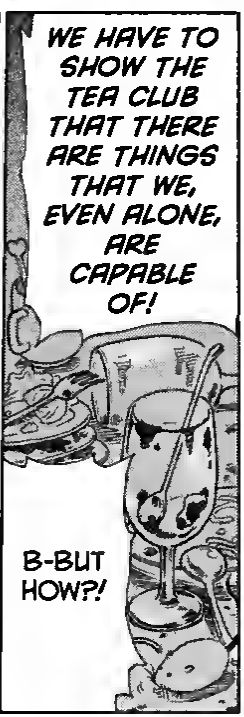
Good Thing He Crashed into the Limo. (See Volume 7 for Details.)


YOU TRAITOR, TAKANO...!
SO YOU WERE IN LEAGUE WITH THEM ALL ALONG!
DAMMIT! ALL OF OUR GIRLS HAVE BEEN LURED AWAY BY ITOKO-SENSEI'S TEA CLUB CAFÉ...

SHK
HANAI ...?
THE DREAM IS OVER...!
DON'T BE QUIT-TERS!!


NOW OUR CAFÉ IS ABOUT TO BE FORECLOSED ON...

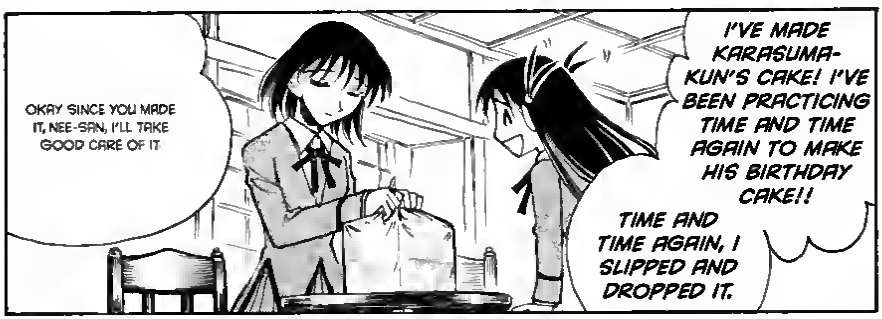
NOW IS THE TIME FOR THE MEN OF 2-C TO SHINE!!
WHOOSH
OF COURSE, THERE IS BUT ONE ANSWER! WE WILL BRING IN THE CUSTOM-ERS OUR-SELVES!!

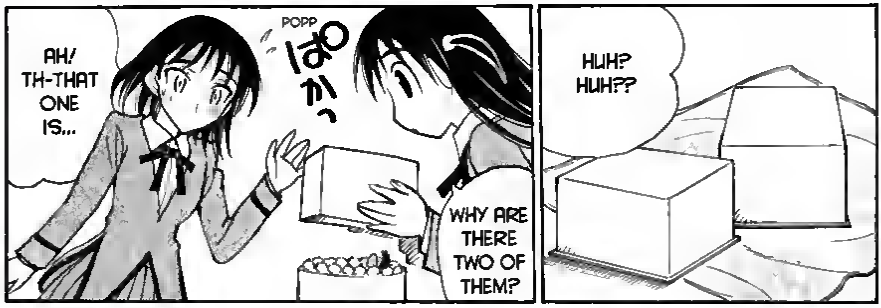

WE HAVE TO SHOW THE TEA CLUB THAT THERE ARE THINGS THAT WE, EVEN ALONE, ARE CAPABLE OF!
B-BUT HOW?!

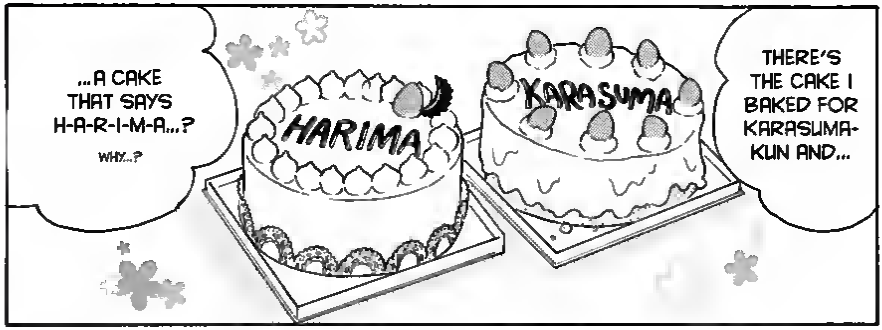
WHOOSH WHOOSH WHOOSH
YEAAAHH!!

IT WAS COMPLETELY HOPELESS...
I-IT'S YOU GUYS...
SHK
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS SITTING THERE FOR?
I'M SORRY. FRANKLY I THOUGHT WE COULD DO IT ALONE...
WE WERE DEALT A LETHAL BLOW WHEN ASŌ AND IMADORI BEGGED OFF
SO GET THAT DEFEATED LOOK OFF YOUR FACES, AND LET'S FINISH THIS FIRST DAY WITH A BANG!!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!!
WE USED THE PROCEEDS FROM THE FIRST HALF OF THE DAY TO BUY SNACKS AND STUFF!
YEAAAHH!!
RIGHT!! WE'RE GIVING THIS ALL WE'VE GOT!!
SNIFF! THEY EVEN HELP LOSERS LIKE US...
TH-THANK YOU!!
DO WE HAVE GODDESSES AMONG US?

YAKUMO!! I'VE COME TO TAKE YOU AWAY FROM ALL THIS!!
WE'RE CLOSING THINGS OUT WITH A BANG!
Café Tea Club


OKAY SINCE YOU MADE IT, NEE-SAN, I'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT
I'VE MADE KARASUMA-KUN'S CAKE! I'VE BEEN PRACTICING TIME AND TIME AGAIN TO MAKE HIS BIRTHDAY CAKE!!
TIME AND TIME AGAIN, I SLIPPED AND DROPPED IT.

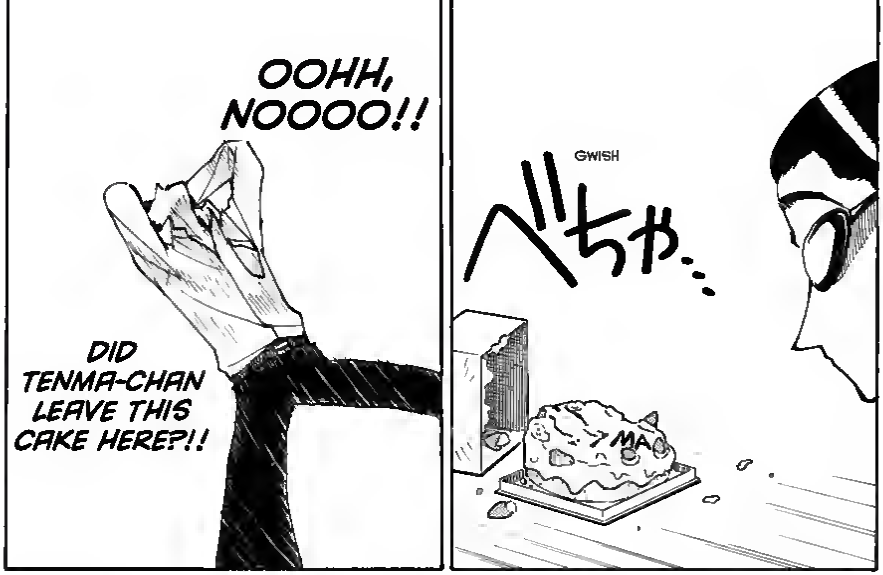

AH! TH-THAT ONE IS...
POPP
はれ?
WHY ARE THERE TWO OF THEM?
HUH? HUH??


...A CAKE THAT SAYS H-A-R-I-M-A...?
WHY...?
HARIMA
KARASUMA
THERE'S THE CAKE I BAKED FOR KARASUMA-KUN AND...

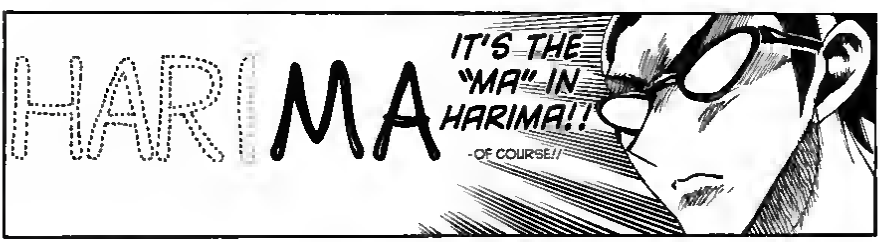
A-ACTUALLY, HARIMA-SAN'S MANG...
I-I MEAN, SOMETHING NICE HAPPENED TO HIM...
AND THERE WAS AN EXTRA CAKE THE TEA CLUB BAKED, AND..
N-NO, YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG...
NO, NEE-SAN, THERE'S...
PAT PAT
DON'T WORRY! YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO SHY! YOUR BIG SISTER UNDERSTANDS!
FINE! I HAVE TO DO MY BEST TO NOT BE SHOWN UP BY MY LITTLE SISTER!
COME WITH ME, YAKUMO!
I STILL HAVE TO HELP THE TEA CLUB CLEAN UP, SO I'LL BE ALONG LATER.
HMM... THEN I'LL BRING BOTH CAKES WITH ME, SO COME AS SOON AS YOU CAN!
HARIMA-KUN SHOULD BE AT 2-C, TOO!
2-C
I'LL JUST LEAVE MY CAKE HERE.
SO IT DOESN'T GET CONFUSED WITH HARIMI'S CAKE.
GOOD LUCK...
OH, AND YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG..
LAHH LAHH!
ZHATT
TMP

Manga is a Secret Shared Between the Two of Them Alone.

THIS TIME FOR SURE!! I WILL CONVEY MY SOUL TO YOU!!!
THIS IS MY CHANCE!! TENMA IS ALONE!!
GANCH
TENMA-CHAAAAAN!!
GACHANG
DAMMIT!! WHAT WAS THAT?!
KH... OWW!!


OOHH, NOOOO!!
DID TENMA-CHAN LEAVE THIS CAKE HERE?!!
GWISH
ベちゃ..
MA

THIS "MA" ON IT.... C-COULD IT BE...?!
MA
AND...


HARIMA
IT'S THE "MA" IN HARIMA!!
-OF COURSE!!

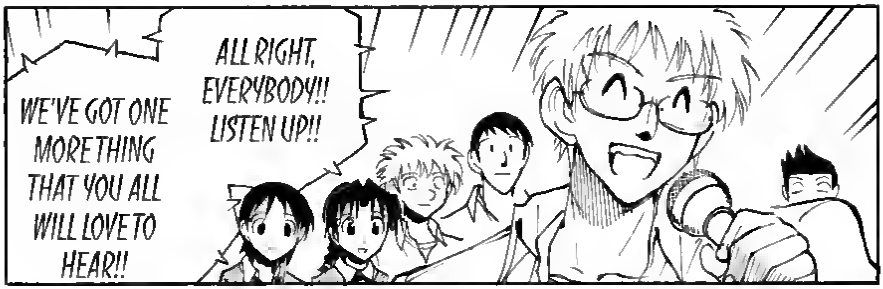
I GET IT!! SO THAT'S THE WAY IT IS!! THE MYSTERY IS SOLVED!!
BUT WHY WOULD SHE HAVE A CAKE HERE WITH MY NAME ON IT...?

AND NOW I'M OVERJOYED!! YOU'VE BEEN WATCHING OVER ME FROM A DISTANCE, HAVEN'T YOU, TENMA-CHAN?!!
I'VE BEEN TRYING MY HARDEST TO ACT LIKE A NORMAL CLASSMATE./
TENMA-CHAN!! YOU LEARNED ABOUT MY MANGA AWARD FROM LITTLE SISTER-SAN AND SECRETLY BAKED A CAKE FOR ME!!!
MARIMA
BUT IN RETURN, I TAKE THE FROSTED SYMBOL OF TENMA-CHAN'S LOVE, AND I...!!
キョロ GLANCE
キョロ GLANCE
にぬろ〜 GLOOP GLOOPP
NOBODY'S AROUND, HUH? NOW'S THE ONLY TIME TO DO IT!!
SST

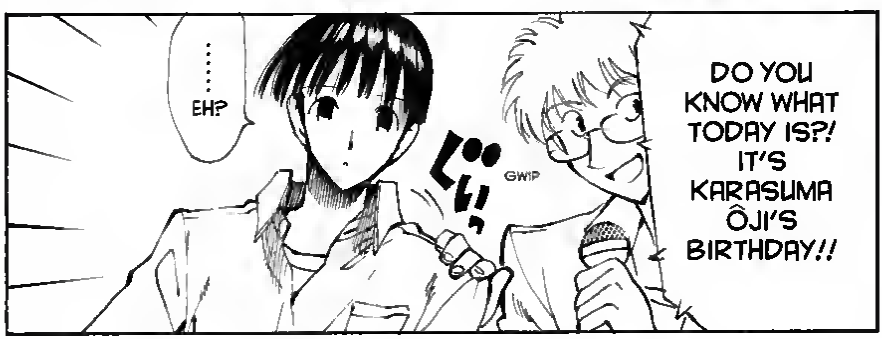
Kenji: Overjoyed.

CAFE
YES!! IT'S PERFECT!!
THIS WAY NO ONE WILL KNOW!
HARIMA
うおおっ!!
YEAAH!!
EVERY-BODY, GOOD WORK!!
UCHIAGE
MADOKA, ABOUT ALL THOSE CUS-TOMERS YOU EXCHANGED E-MAIL ADDRESSES WITH...
WOW! LOTS OF FRIENDS CAME TO THE CAFÉ, AND I HAD SO MUCH FUN!!

Kenji: Overjoyed...


WE'VE GOT ONE MORE THING THAT YOU ALL WILL LOVE TO HEAR!!
ALL RIGHT, EVERYBODY!! LISTEN UP!!

BUT I CAN'T SAY IT'S A BAD THING TO CELEBRATE MY VICTORY WITH THE WHOLE CLASS.
HA. I GUESS TENMA-CHAN COULDN'T KEEP IT TO HERSELF.
HERE IT COMES.


.....
EH?
GWIP
DO YOU KNOW WHAT TODAY IS?! IT'S KARASUMA ÔJI'S BIRTHDAY!!

PA-PAMM!!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

?!

KA... KA... KA...

IF THAT BOX IS OPENED, THE POSITION I'VE BUILT IN THE CLASS WILL...

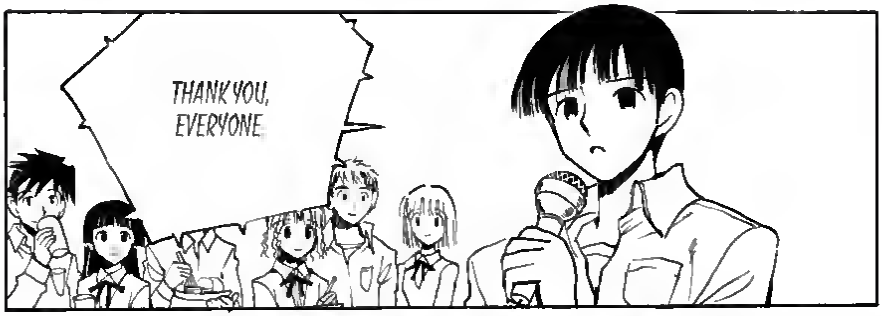
I'M... IN BAD TROUBLE HERE!!!

THEN THAT CAKE WAS FOR KARASUMA...?!

HARIMA

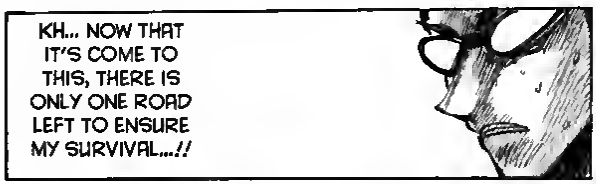
IT WASN'T "HARIMA"! IT WAS "KARASUMA"!!

KARASUMA'S BIRTHDAY?! THIS IS A DISASTER!!!


THANK YOU, EVERYONE.

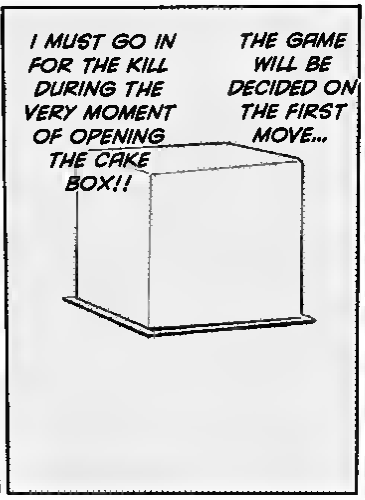
TA-DAHH! WE HAVE THE BIRTHDAY CAKE!!
KLAP KLAP
YAY!!
KLAP KLAP
AND NOW THAT THE SPEECHES ARE OVER...

BGM: Ta-dahh.


KH... NOW THAT IT'S COME TO THIS, THERE IS ONLY ONE ROAD LEFT TO ENSURE MY SURVIVAL...!!

THIS REALLY IS BAD!!
IF SHE BRINGS OUT A "HARIMA" CAKE HERE, IT'LL BE A DISASTER!!

WE'LL JUST OPEN IT UP, AND...


I MUST GO IN FOR THE KILL DURING THE VERY MOMENT OF OPENING THE CAKE BOX!!
THE GAME WILL BE DECIDED ON THE FIRST MOVE...

CHP
WAA! OOPS!!
GACHAM
HUH?
NO, I TRIPPED OVER A STONE, AND...
AHH!! WHAT WAS THAT FOR, HARIMA-SAN?! WHAT AN AWFUL THING TO DO!!
I-I'M SORRY, TENMA-CHAN...!
BUT IT WAS THE ONLY THING I COULD DO TO ENSURE HAPPINESS FOR BOTH OF US!
EH?
YOU RUINED THE CAKE THAT WAS MEANT TO COM-MEMORATE MY VICTORY ON THE FINAL DAY OF THE SWIMSUIT WRESTLING COMPETITION!

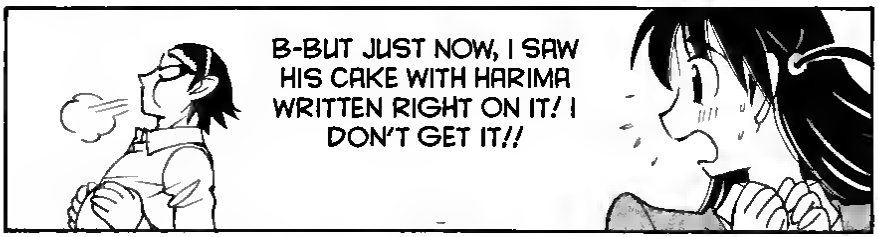
WELL DONE! YOSHIDAYAMA
HUSSSH
I KNOW IT'S JUST YOSHIDAYAMA, BUT STILL, THAT'S A TERRIBLE THING TO DO!!
HARIMA, WHY WOULD YOU EVEN THINK OF DOING SUCH A THING?
SORRY... I THOUGHT IT WAS MY CAKE...
EH...?
OH, HARIMA-KUN! WHAT WILL WE DO WITH YOU?!
I KNOW YOU'RE EXCITED, BUT THIS IS TOO MUCH!!

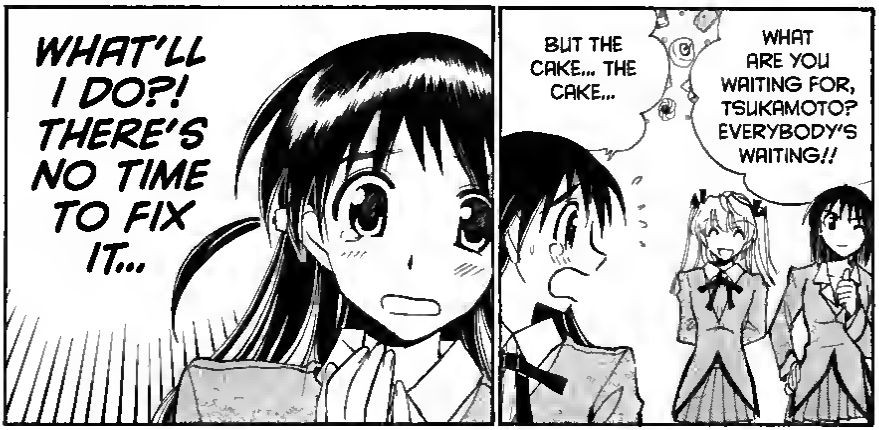
EH?
HARIMA
HARIMA-KUN, YOUR CAKE IS OVER HERE!!
CON-GRATULA-TIONS!!
HOW GREAT FOR YOU!
I HEARD THAT YOU HAD SOMETHING REALLY GOOD HAPPEN TO YOU!!
YUP! IT'S FROM YAKUMO.
T-TENMA-CHAN...!!
HARIMA KENJI... YOU ARE ONE FIERCELY HAPPY MAN!!
DIDN'T HEAR THE "IT'S FROM YAKUMO" PART
GAAAAA-AAHHH!!

ちまっ
PLIT
HERE.
SORRY ABOUT THAT LITTLE THING BEFORE. HAVE A BIT OF MINE.
IT'S TOO GOOD!!
THIS IS GOOD!!
CHOMP CHOMP
がが
STUFF STUFF
EVEN HARIMA-KUN HAS HIS CUTE SIDE.
YAKUMO IS ONE LUCKY GIRL!
HEH HEH HEH! LOOK HOW HAPPY HE IS!
WE BRING YOU THE PRESENT FROM ME TO KARASUMA-KUN!
NOW, FINALLY WE APPROACH THE MAIN FEATURE OF TODAY'S EVENTS!
POP
HERE GOES!!
THE CAKE'S GRAND OPENING!!
HARIMA

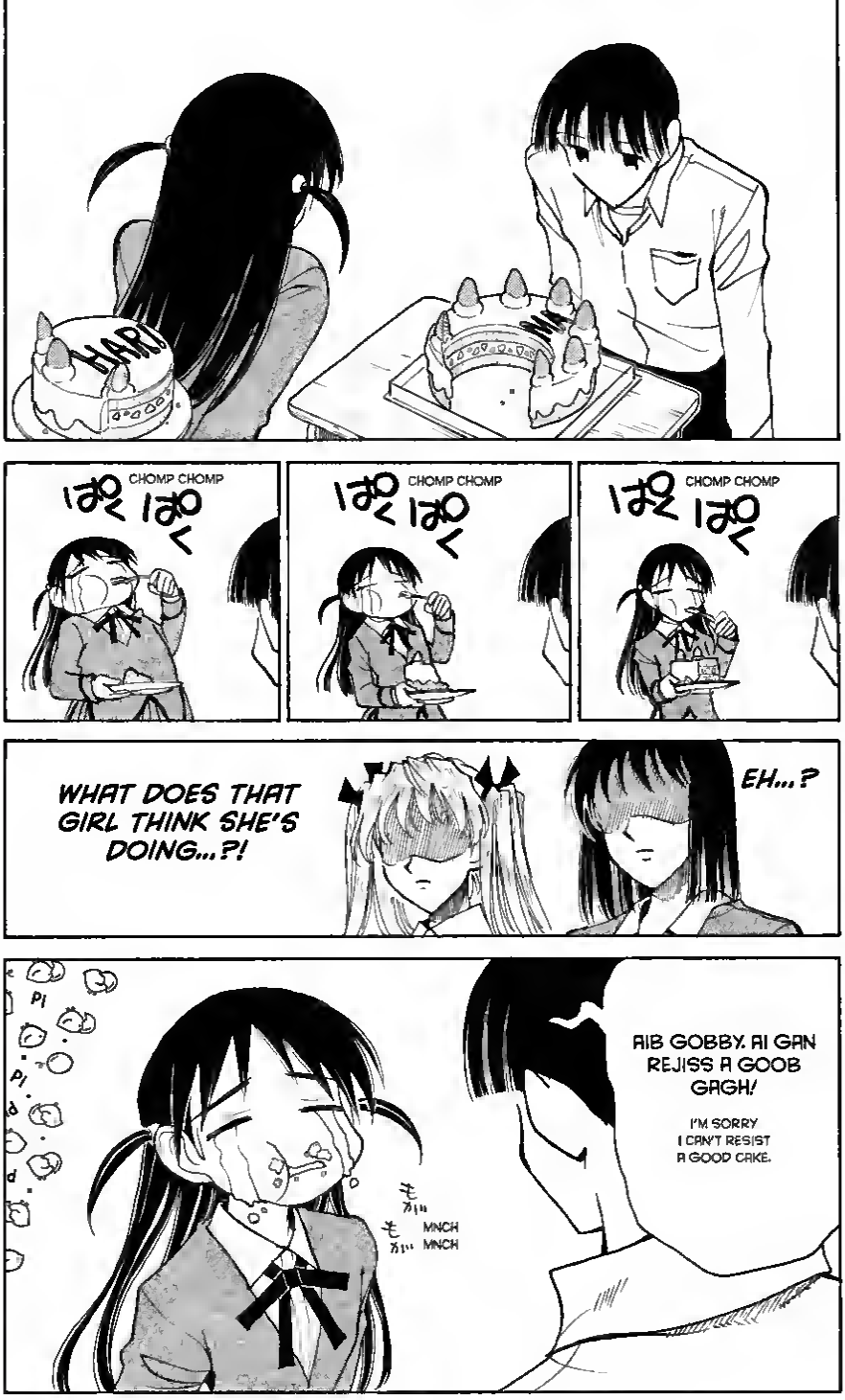
HOW CAN THIS BE...?!
H—

...TURN INTO HARIMA-KUN'S CAKE...?!
HARIMA
HOW? WHY? WHY DID KARASUMA-KUN'S CAKE...


B-BUT JUST NOW, I SAW HIS CAKE WITH HARIMA WRITTEN RIGHT ON IT! I DON'T GET IT!!


WHAT'LL I DO?! THERE'S NO TIME TO FIX IT...
BUT THE CAKE... THE CAKE...
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR, TSUKAMOTO? EVERYBODY'S WAITING!!

ZING
ANYBODY WOULD BE NERVOUS.
AW, GEEZ/
SHE'S GOT A CASE OF NERVES/
TSUKAMOTO, THAT'S SO YOU/
THERE'S ONLY ONE PATH THAT LEADS TOWARD SURVIVAL!!
W-WELL, IF IT COMES TO THIS...
SLST
SLST
NATURALLY.
I'M A LITTLE JEALOUS
SHE LOOKS SO HAPPY/
O-OKAY. LET'S CUT THIS CAKE!!
HYAAH/
THAT'S ALL DONE!!
KATAK
NOW!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
KARA-SUMA-KUN!!
ZWIMM
KLAP KLAP


HAPU
CHOMP CHOMP
ぱく ぱく
CHOMP CHOMP
ぱく ぱく
CHOMP CHOMP
ぱく ぱく
WHAT DOES THAT GIRL THINK SHE'S DOING...?!
EH...?
PI
PI
AIB GOBBY. AI GAN REJISS A GOOB GAGH!
I'M SORRY I CAN'T RESIST A GOOD CAKE.
MNCH
MNCH

ONE HOUR LATER...
WHY DID THAT HAVE TO HAPPEN TO ME?!
WHAT HAPPENED TO MY CAKE?
SNIFF
SNIFF
クスン
クスン
OF COURSE HE'D HATE ME AFTER SOMETHING LIKE THAT, HUH? I CAN'T EVER FACE KARASUMA-KUN AGAIN!
TSUKAMOTO-SAN...
WHAT'S WRONG? EVERYBODY'S BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU.
...THAT PICTURE...
ER...

THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU DID TODAY.
I-I WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN MAKE THIS NICE FACE, TOO. AS A PRESENT...
K-KARASUMA-KUN! BEFORE YOU SAID IT WAS HARD FOR YOU TO SH-SHOW YOUR EMOTIONS!!
Y-YEAH!
ARE YOU GOING HOME? WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO WALK WITH YOU?
WELCOME
きそば
やき

120 · · · · · · · · Fin

THE LAND I HAVE SEARCHED FOR LO THESE MANY YEARS! I HAVE FINALLY ARRIVED!
WITHIN THAT TOWER ATOP THOSE HIGH, CRAGGY CLIFFS IS THE PRINCESS...
SHKK
I MUST! I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GO, FOR WITHIN THAT TOWER IS...
NO MAN HAS CHAL-LENGED THAT TOWER AND RETURNED TO TELL THE TALE!!
M-MASTER!! PLEASE RECONSIDER THIS!!

#121 IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU

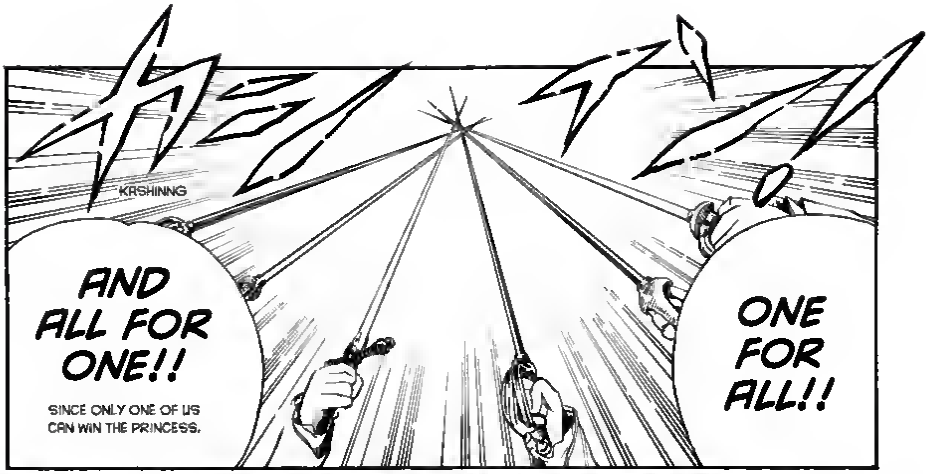
A CURSE TO SLEEP FOR A HUNDRED YEARS! A PRINCESS!!
...ONE WHO HAS BEEN PUT UNDER A BLACK MAGIC CURSE!
THEREFORE, I GO!!
SHINNG
AND THAT'S THE KIND OF GRAND-SCALE LOVE FANTASY I'VE BEEN CONSIDERING. WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I WENT AHEAD AND WROTE AND DREW A BIG 120-PAGE WORK.
I SHOULDN'T SAY IT, BUT MY TALENT FRIGHTENS EVEN ME.
YEAH... WHAT YOUR BIG SISTER DID YESTERDAY GAVE ME A LOT OF ENERGY...

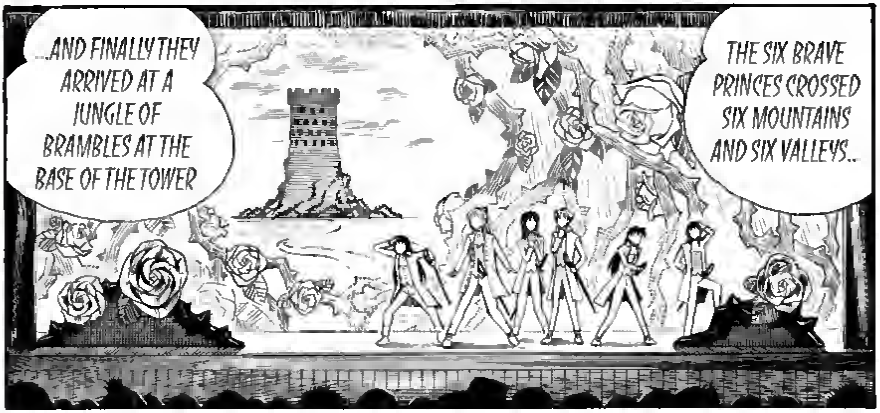
I'M GOING TO TAKE A NAP!
AHHH! THAT SURE TIRED ME OUT!
I'M SORRY TO IMPOSE, LITTLE SISTER-SAN, BUT COULD YOU READ THE WHOLE THING THROUGH AND TELL ME WHAT YOU THINK?
ざわざわ
CHATTER CHATTER
IN THE GYMNASIUM...
YEAH, RUMOR HAS IT THEY HAVE SIX LEADING ROLES.
HEY, DID YOU HEAR? THE PLAY BY CLASS 2-C IS SUPPOSED TO BE INCREDIBLE!
THAT'S TAKANO-SAN FOR YOU! SHE WROTE A PLAY THAT NOBODY ELSE COULD EVEN IMAGINE!
THAT POSTER LOOKS LIKE SOME PRETTY SERIOUS STUFF!
OH, HERE! HERE IT IS!!
I'M ALREADY ON PINS AND NEEDLES!!
KYAA! I CAN'T WAIT TO FIND OUT WHO'S PLAYING WHAT PART!!
THIS IS FUN!

Harima and Hanai Were Fired. Probably.

WOW! THE PLACE IS FILLING UP!
わい わい
CHATTER CHATTER
THIS IS GOING TO BRING IN A FORTUNE!
IT'S A SELL-OUT CROWD!
I NEVER IMAGINED OUR PLAY WOULD BRING IN SO MANY PEOPLE!
FWAA
おお OHHH
WHOA! THAT'S SAWACHIKA FOR YOU!!
IT'S TOO GOOD A FIT!
I DON'T CARE WHO YOU ARE, THAT'S WHAT EVERYBODY CAME TO SEE.
JUST WHAT A PRINCE SHOULD BE! CALM, COOL, AND COLLECTED!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? I'M ALMOST IN A PANIC!
SHF
YOU'LL BE FINE! YOU HAVE TO BE, AFTER ALL THE PRACTICE YOU PUT IN!!

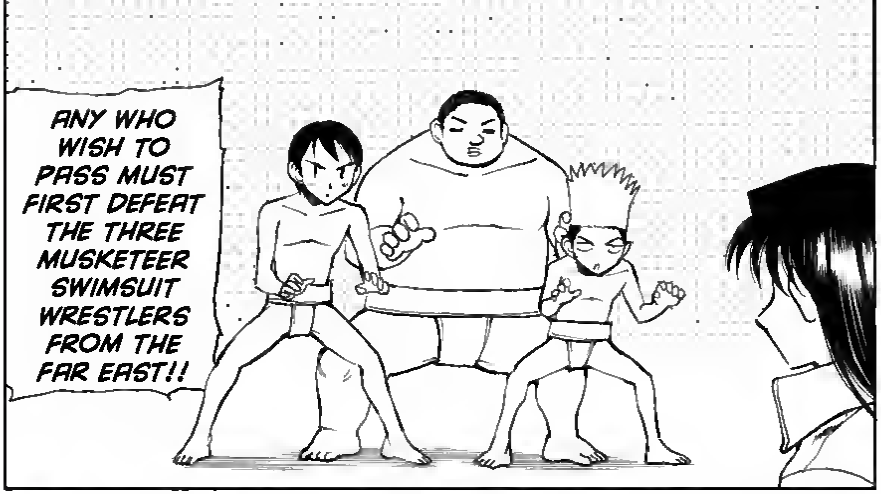
FOOM
I GUESS SO...
ONCE UPON A TIME IN A FAR-OFF LAND...
...A SORCERER PUT A BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS UNDER A SPELL AND CURSED HER TO SLEEP FOR A HUNDRED YEARS IN A HIGH TOWER
ZHATT
BUT NOW, SIX BRAVE YOUNG PRINCES ARE PREPARED TO RESCUE HER!

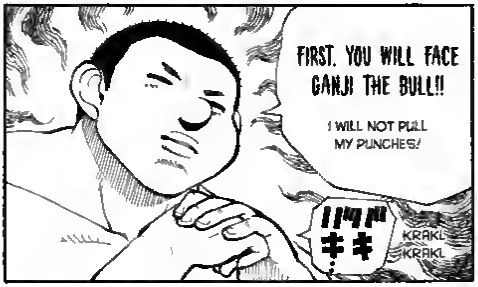

KRSHINNG
AND ALL FOR ONE!!
SINCE ONLY ONE OF US CAN WIN THE PRINCESS.
ONE FOR ALL!!

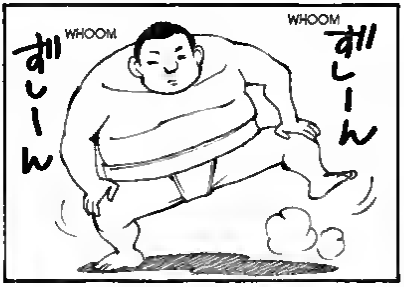

...AND FINALLY THEY ARRIVED AT A JUNGLE OF BRAMBLES AT THE BASE OF THE TOWER
THE SIX BRAVE PRINCES CROSSED SIX MOUNTAINS AND SIX VALLEYS...

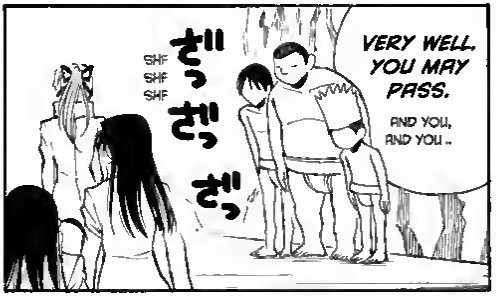
SHINNG
WE WILL CUT IN TWAIN ANY WHO DARE TO STAND IN OUR WAY!!
EN GARDE!

SHAKE
HOLD IT! WHO GAVE YOU PERMISSION TO SET FOOT ON THIS GROUND?
HM? WHO'S THIS?!





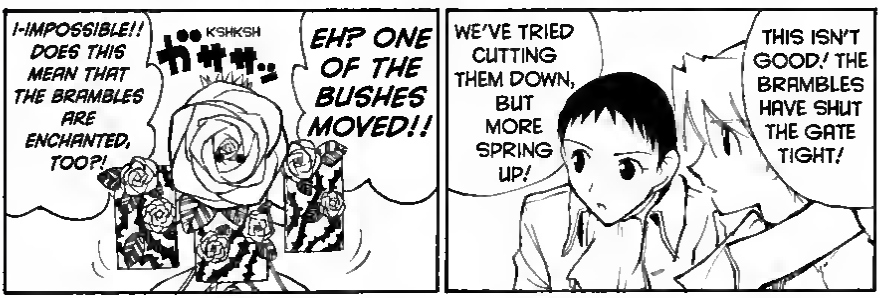


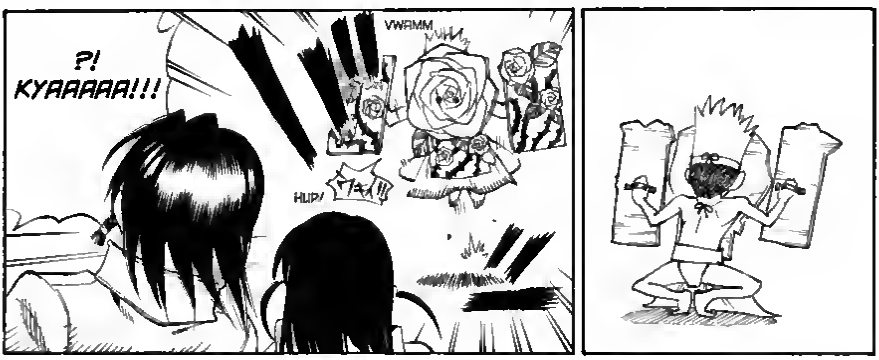


Friendship Makes Its Appearance.

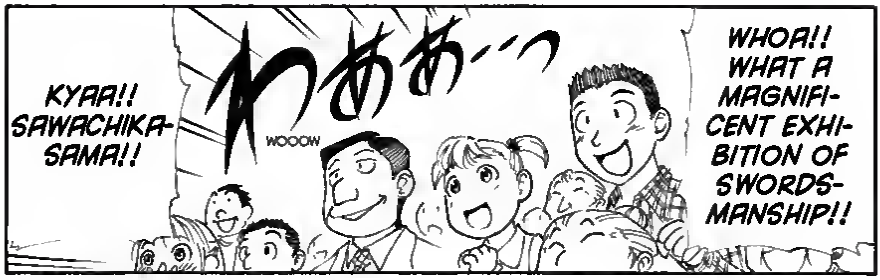
GRLUN
YEAH!
UMPH!
GRLUN
THAT'S THE CUE! NOW! MOVE IT!!

おおっ
OOHH!
ZWEEE

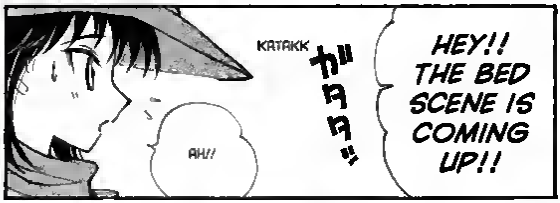

I-IMPOSSIBLE!! DOES THIS MEAN THAT THE BRAMBLES ARE ENCHANTED, TOO?!
KSHKSH
EH? ONE OF THE BUSHES MOVED!!
WE'VE TRIED CUTTING THEM DOWN, BUT MORE SPRING UP!
THIS ISN'T GOOD! THE BRAMBLES HAVE SHUT THE GATE TIGHT!


?! KYAAAAA!!!
VWRMM
HUP!

MAY THE HOLY SPIRIT
Esprit!
Le talisman
EXORCISE THIS
font ce
DEMON/
démon!
I COMMAND IT
il ordres
IN THE NAME
au nom
OF GOD/
de Dieu!
KEEE
KEEE

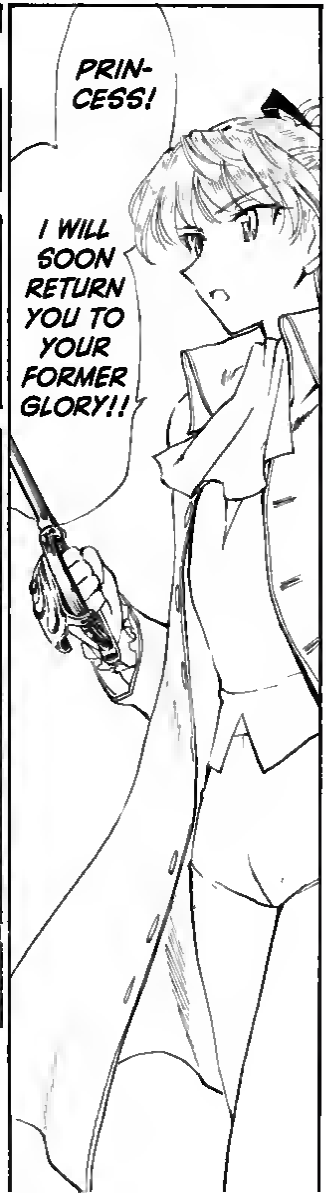

KYAA!! SAWACHIKA-SAMA!!
わあああ
WOOOW
WHOA!! WHAT A MAGNIFI-CENT EXHI-BITION OF SWORDS-MANSHIP!!

BACKSTAGE...


KATAKK
カタッ
AH!/
HEY!! THE BED SCENE IS COMING UP!!

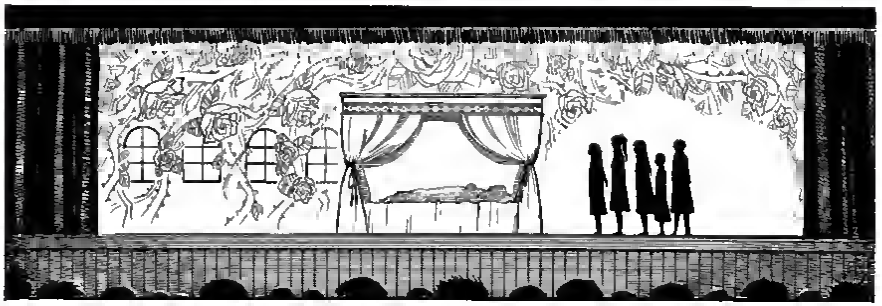
H-HARIMA-SAN, HARIMA-SAN, PLEASE WAKE UP/
IN A FEW MOMENTS..
SCHNOOR SCHNOOR
TH-THIS IS BAD... I HAVE TO WAKE UP HARIMA-SAN.

!
HERE GOES! ONE, TWO...

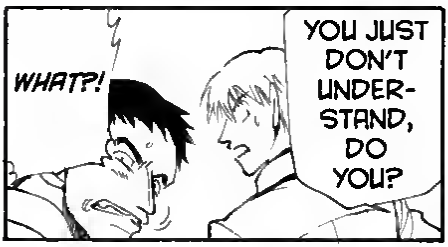

PRIN-CESS!
I WILL SOON RETURN YOU TO YOUR FORMER GLORY!!

GM GM GM GM
ゴゴゴゴゴゴ
おおぉぉっ
OHHH
...THE INCREDIBLE BEAUTY OF THE PRINCESS FAST ASLEEP AND COMPLETELY UNCHANGED FOR A HUNDRED YEARS!!
AND WHEN THEY ARRIVED AT THE VERY TOP OF THE TOWER, THEY SAW THERE...

121・・・・・・・・・Fin

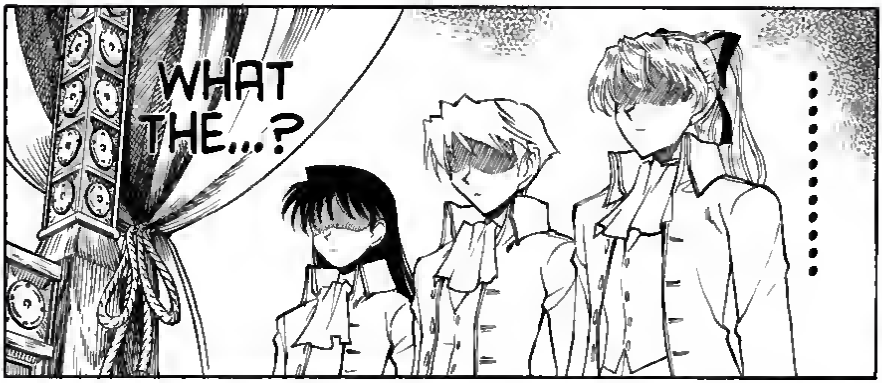


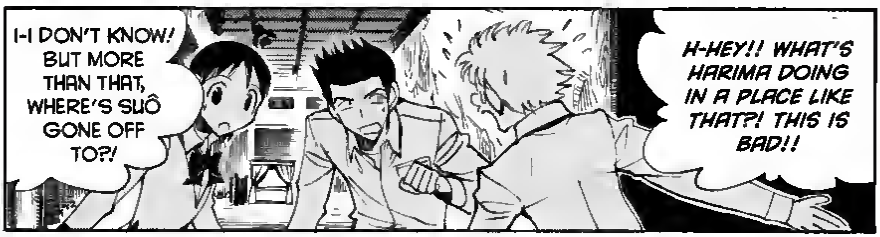
STILL, THAT'S WHAT I'D EXPECT FROM TAKANO'S SCRIPT!!
THIS PRODUCTION IS EVEN GREATER THAN I THOUGHT!!
HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S REALLY ASLEEP!!
I-IS THAT THE PRINCESS?! BUT IT'S A GUY!!
HARIMA?



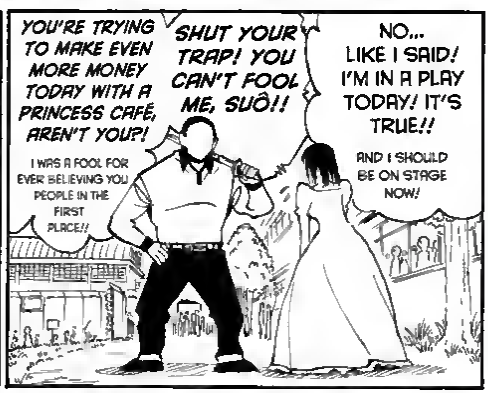
THIS IS A STYLE OF THEATER THAT ONE WOULD BE HARD PUT TO FIND EVEN ON BROADWAY.
IT IS NO SURPRISE THAT A WOMAN IS PLAYING A MAN'S PART, BUT HAVING A MAN PLAY A WOMAN'S PART, MOREOVER WITHOUT THE AID OF COSTUMING...
ZZZ

#122 | AWAKENINGS

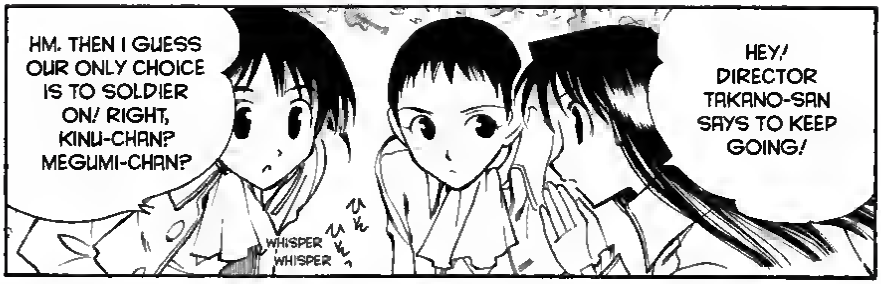

WHAT THE...?
.....


I-I DON'T KNOW! BUT MORE THAN THAT, WHERE'S SUÔ GONE OFF TO?!
H-HEY!! WHAT'S HARIMA DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THAT?! THIS IS BAD!!

WH-WHAT'S GOING ON?!
WHAT'S BEARD DOING HERE...?!
GLANCE


YOU'RE TRYING TO MAKE EVEN MORE MONEY TODAY WITH A PRINCESS CAFÉ, AREN'T YOU?!
I WAS A FOOL FOR EVER BELIEVING YOU PEOPLE IN THE FIRST PLACE!!
SHUT YOUR TRAP! YOU CAN'T FOOL ME, SUÔ!!
NO... LIKE I SAID! I'M IN A PLAY TODAY! IT'S TRUE!!
AND I SHOULD BE ON STAGE NOW!

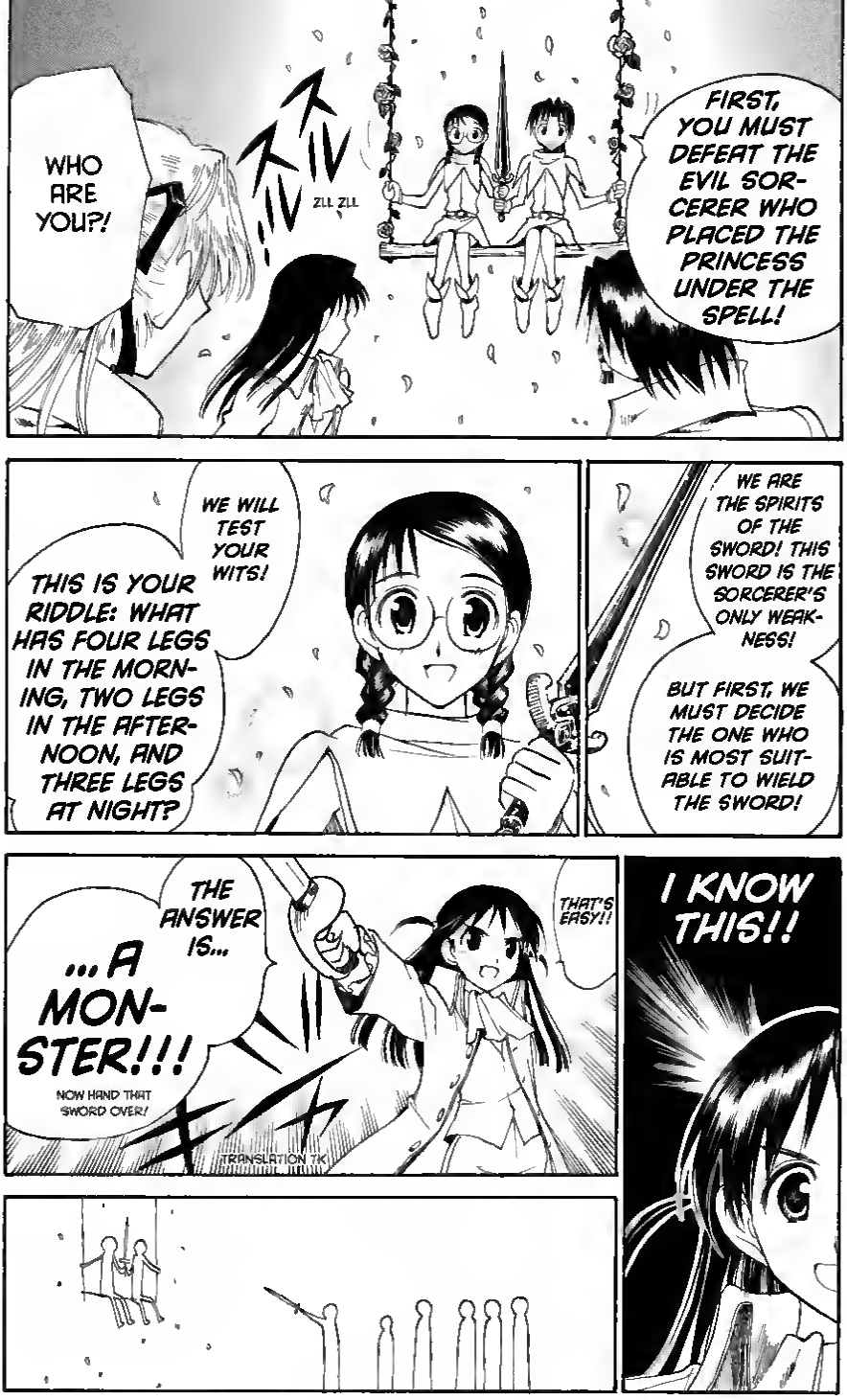
YOU'RE KID-DING!!
Keep going!!


HM. THEN I GUESS OUR ONLY CHOICE IS TO SOLDIER ON! RIGHT, KINU-CHAN? MEGUMI-CHAN?
WHISPER WHISPER
ひそ ひそ
HEY! DIRECTOR TAKANO-SAN SAYS TO KEEP GOING!

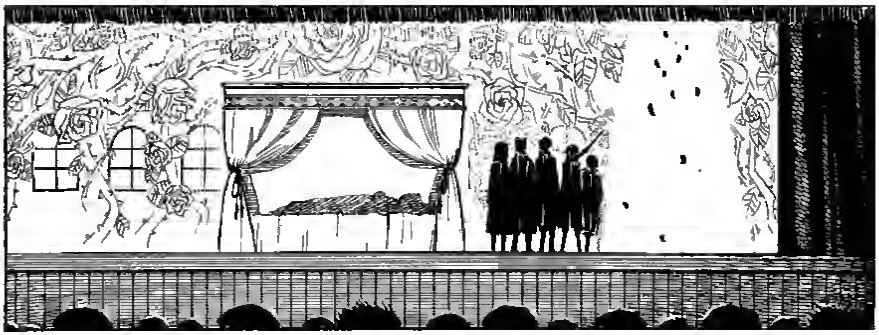
MAKE US PROUD!!
B-BUT IF I HAVE TO KEEP GOING, THAT MEANS HE AND I WILL...!!

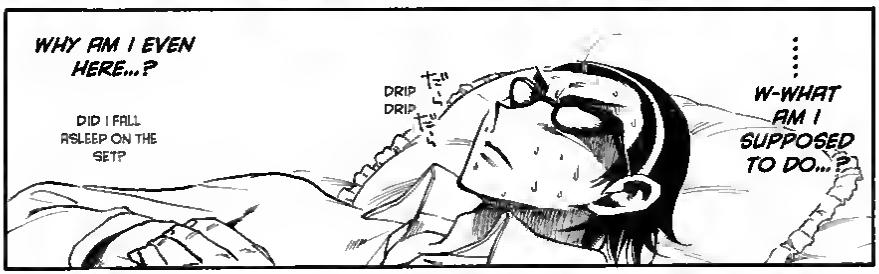
URK... EVERYBODY'S WATCHING. I HAVE NO CHOICE..

H-HOW CAN..
...I POSSIBLY WAKE THE PRINCESS UP..
H!!!
GRIMP

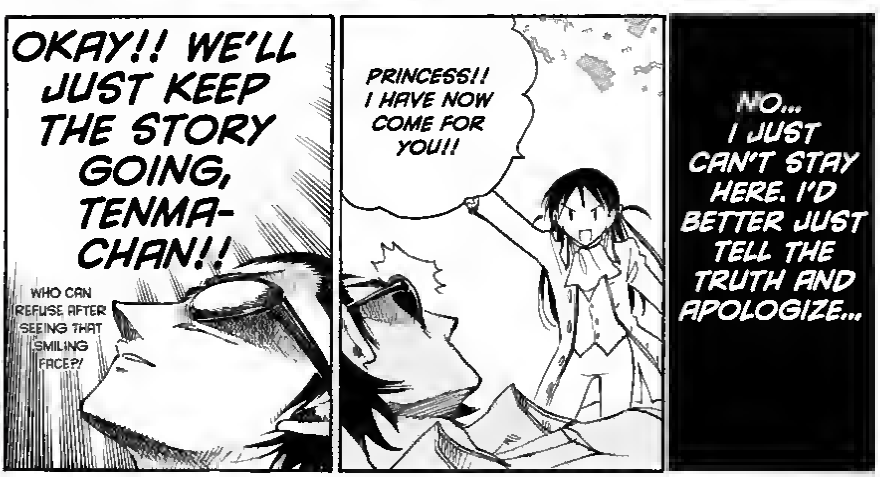

WHO ARE YOU?!
ZLL ZLL
FIRST, YOU MUST DEFEAT THE EVIL SORCERER WHO PLACED THE PRINCESS UNDER THE SPELL!
WE WILL TEST YOUR WITS!
THIS IS YOUR RIDDLE: WHAT HAS FOUR LEGS IN THE MORNING, TWO LEGS IN THE AFTERNOON, AND THREE LEGS AT NIGHT?
WE ARE THE SPIRITS OF THE SWORD! THIS SWORD IS THE SORCERER'S ONLY WEAKNESS!
BUT FIRST, WE MUST DECIDE THE ONE WHO IS MOST SUITABLE TO WIELD THE SWORD!
THE ANSWER IS...
...A MONSTER!!!
NOW HAND THAT SWORD OVER!
TRANSLATION TK
THAT'S EASY!!
I KNOW THIS!!

ZLL ZLL
Y-YOU'VE ANSWERED INCORRECTLY, AND THEREFORE, YOU WILL NOT GET THE SWORD.
.....HA! A PLOT TWIST THAT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN ANTICIPATED! WHAT A NOVEL PRESENTATION!!
SHK
C-COME ON, PEOPLE. LET'S GO.
WE WON'T BE FOOLED BY ANY WORTHLESS SWORD!
HM?
WHAT'S THE NOISE ABOUT? SHUT UP!!
M... MMM...
YRRY YRRY
SCHNOOR
KLAP KLAP
KLAP KLAP
BRAVO!!




WHY AM I EVEN HERE...?
DID I FALL ASLEEP ON THE SET?
DRIP DRIP だらだら
.....
W-WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO...?

IF I WERE TO WAKE UP NOW, IT'D BE BAD. I DON'T LIKE THIS AT ALL...
OH, YEAH. IT'S THE PLAY. BUT WE'RE RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PERFORMANCE...


OKAY!! WE'LL JUST KEEP THE STORY GOING, TENMA-CHAN!!
WHO CAN REFUSE AFTER SEEING THAT SMILING FACE?!
PRINCESS!! I HAVE NOW COME FOR YOU!!
NO... I JUST CAN'T STAY HERE. I'D BETTER JUST TELL THE TRUTH AND APOLOGIZE...

PRINCE TENMA!!
NO! I AM DEFEATED !!
OH HO! YOU WILL NOT GET ANY FARTHER COMING THIS WAY!!
DON'T GIVE UP!! THERE'S ALWAYS HOPE OF RESCUE!!
TH-THIS IS THE END FOR ME. YOU GO ON...
HYAAH!!
KH! THE SORCERER'S PERSONAL BODY-GUARDS ARE THE TOUGHEST!!

AND THE PRINCES FELL ONE AFTER THE NEXT UNTIL THE ONLY ONE STILL STANDING WAS...
ヒョウ
AND WHAT'S SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN NEXT? IF I REMEMBER THE STORY RIGHT...
WHY? WHY IS MISS PRINCESS THE ONLY ONE LEFT STANDING?!
I'VE ARRIVED. AND I FINALLY MEET THE ONE I'VE DREAMED OF. THE ONE I'VE LONGED FOR...
TAK
TAK
I, PRINCE ERI, HAVE COME FOR YOU.
AND I BEG OF YOU, PRINCESS, TO END YOUR HUNDRED YEARS OF SLEEP WITH MY KISS!
PRIN-CESS... !!

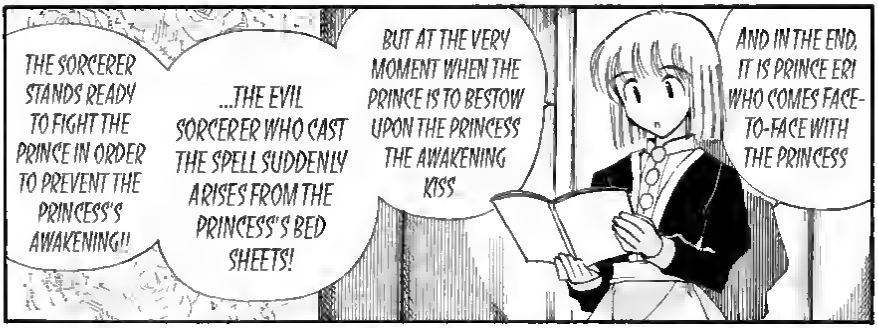
UM... UH... I'VE COME FOR YOU.
PLEASE END YOUR HUNDRED YEARS OF SLEEP WITH MY KISS.
SHUMP
W-WAIT...
SHHTT
NOT YOU!!
A RESOUNDING SLAP IN THE FACE TO THE PRINCE!!
TWITCH TWITCH
WHOOAA
AH HA HA HA! THE PRINCESS REFUSES!!
PRINCESS, STOP FOOLING AROUND AND WAKE UP!!
SHATZ
DAMN YOU, BEARD...!! I'M NOT DOING THIS BECAUSE I WANT TO!!

Y-YAKUMO!! W-WHAT'S THIS SUPPOSED TO MEAN...?!
W-WELL, I... UM...
I-I'M SORRY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE?
THAT GIRL...
HMM
WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO NOW?
WILL YOU TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR RUINING THIS ENTIRE PRODUCTION FOR ALL OF US?

RUINING THE ENTIRE PRODUCTION...?
おお…っ！
OOHH!
THAT PERSON WAS SLEEPING NEXT TO THE PRINCESS!!
WHO IS IT SUPPOSED TO BE?!
WHOA! THAT ONE CAME RIGHT OUT OF THE PRINCESS'S BED!!
SST
ス…
I...
I AM...
I AM THE EVIL SORCERER...
さぁ…？

I KNOW ALL. THE PERSON LYING HERE IS VERY TIRED.
I KNEW THAT IT WAS MY DUTY TO PUT THE PRINCESS TO SLEEP
IF SOMEONE WERE TO TRY TO DISTURB THIS PERSON'S REST, EVEN IF IT WERE THE FAMOUS PRINCE ERI...
...I WILL NOT PERMIT IT!
おおーっ!
OOOHH
MAYBE IT'S HER PLACID EXTERIOR THAT MAKES ME WANT TO BELIEVE HER!!
I-I DON'T REALLY GET IT, BUT I HAVE THE FEELING THAT THE SORCERER HAS SOME GOOD REASONS FOR THE SPELL!!
I'M GOING TO WAKE THE PRINCESS UP WITH MY FISTS, IF NECESSARY!!
STAND ASIDE!!
SHINING
WHOOSH
THIS CAN BE CALLED NOTHING LESS THAN THE OPENING OF A NEW ERA OF STAGED PLAYS. DON'T YOU AGREE, LALA?
HM. I CANNOT TAKE MY EYES OFF OF THIS PERFORMANCE!
WHAT IS SHE DOING? SHE'S MAKING IT LOOK LIKE I'M THE VILLAIN!!
SHE'S GOT COURAGE, AND SHE'LL NEED IT!!
FHI!
CH-SHHH

122 ·····Fin


AND IN THE END, IT IS PRINCE ERI WHO COMES FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE PRINCESS
BUT AT THE VERY MOMENT WHEN THE PRINCE IS TO BESTOW UPON THE PRINCESS THE AWAKENING KISS
...THE EVIL SORCERER WHO CAST THE SPELL SUDDENLY ARISES FROM THE PRINCESS'S BED SHEETS!
THE SORCERER STANDS READY TO FIGHT THE PRINCE IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE PRINCESS'S AWAKENING!!

THE PRINCE OR THE SORCERER...?
WHICH OF THEM CAN CLAIM THE RIGHT TO THE PRINCESS'S LIPS?!
おっ
WHOA!
BUT IT'S HARIMA THEY'RE FIGHTING OVER!
ARE THEY REALLY GOING TO FIGHT IT OUT?

AM I SUPPOSED TO BE THIS PRINCESS?! W-W-WHAT THE—?! AND WHAT'S THIS "LIP" TALK ABOUT?!
W-WHETHER THE WINNER IS THE PRINCESS OR LITTLE SISTER-SAN, IT IS BAD NEWS FOR ME!!

IS THIS REALLY HOW YOU WANT THE PLAY TO GO, TAKANO-SAN?
HUH? WHERE'D TAKANO-SAN GO?
DID SHE TURN TAIL AND RUN?
GEEZ! I'M AWAY FOR A FEW MINUTES, AND...
THE PER-FORMANCE THOSE TWO ARE PUTTING ON IS SO REALISTIC!
I WOULDN'T BE SUR-PRISED NO MATTER WHICH ONE OF THEM WON.

#123 THE NEVERENDING STORY

KANG
KANG
KANG
WHOOA
わあっ!!
WOW! THE SORCERER IS HOLDING UP PRETTY WELL!!
KANG
!
GRRN GRRN
HEY! HOW LONG DO YOU INTEND TO KEEP UP THE FIGHT?!
KANG
YOU'RE SUCH A PAIN!!
WHOOSH
YOU KNOW, DON'T YOU?! ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPT, THE LAST ONE STANDING IS THE PRINCE!!
GRRN
B-BUT...

SHINNG
THIS IS THE END!!
YOU WILL FEEL THE WILL OF MY HEART THROUGH MY SWORD!!
HEEEY!! THE SORCERER IS ON THE DEFENSIVE! THIS COULD BE IT!!
KAK KAK KAK
ZLISS
!!
THE FINAL BLOW!!
GWUMP
AH..

OHHH
おお
THAT LOOKED LIKE IT HURT!!
THERE'S THE FINAL COUNTER BLOW!!
TWITCH
ゴゴゴゴ
GM GM GM GM
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT..? PRINCE ERI...?
GNNNG...
THE PRINCE IS UP AND FIGHTING AGAIN!!
WHAT REASON COULD YOU POSSIBLY HAVE FOR STAND-ING IN MY WAY?!
ANSWER ME, SOR-CERER!!
WOW!! THE PRINCE HAS STARTED ANOTHER BLISTERING ATTACK!!
KANG KRANG KRATCH

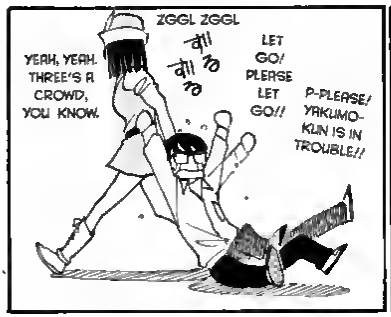
TH-THE PRINCESS AND I HAVE SPENT A HUNDRED YEARS TOGETHER. YEARS YOU WILL NEVER KNOW...
KAKEENG
WILL YOU SWEAR THAT THIS IS NOT SOME KIND OF TRICK?!

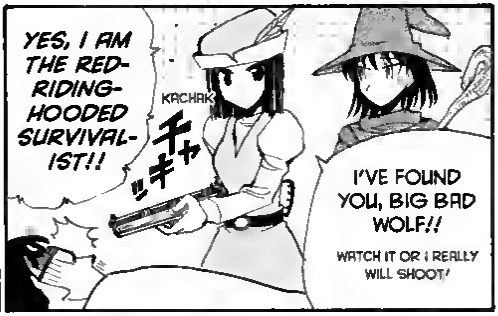
WHOOSH
PRINCE ERI...
CHANNG
I'VE LOST INTEREST.
TWRL
.....
I UNDERSTAND YOU NOW. YOU CAN DO AS YOU LIKE FROM NOW ON.
YOU'VE BEATEN ME BACK FOR NOW, BUT IF I FIND THAT YOU'VE GIVEN LESS THAN YOUR ALL, I'LL BE BACK TO TAKE YOU DOWN! REMEMBER THAT!!

FAREWELL!!
AH...
UM...
おっさ
SLIP SLIP
TH-THE PRINCE DECIDED TO WALK AWAY!!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!
YEAH!! THE SORCERER WON!! BUT WHAT BROUGHT IT ON?!
TRANSLATION TK
KISS!! KISS!!
KISS!! KISS!!
EH...
EH...
SO WILL IT BE THE SORCERER THAT KISSES THE PRINCESS?
OF COURSE!! THAT'S WHAT WE PAID TO SEE, AFTER ALL!!
WHOA! WHAT'LL TSUKAMOTO'S LITTLE SISTER DO NOW?
WHAT ELSE CAN SHE DO WITH THE CROWD IN THE MOOD THAT IT'S IN? ♡
W-WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
I FIGURED THAT SHE DIDN'T KNOW!
THAT'S WHY I SAID WHAT I SAID.
THIS ISN'T WHAT HARIMA-SAN... NOR WHAT I...
B-BUT...

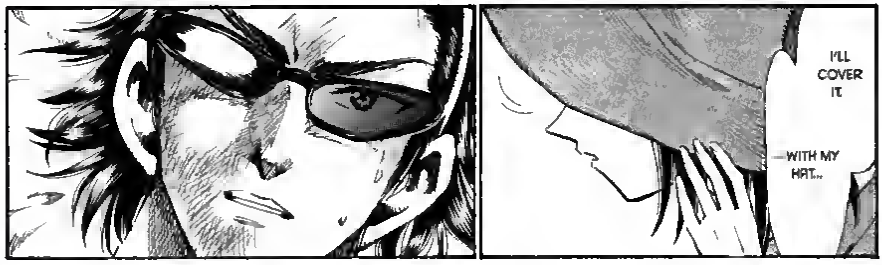
NEE— AH! PRINCE.
WHUMP
KLANG
WOBBLE
ALL OF OUR HOPES NOW REST ON YOU!!
HURRY! BESTOW ON THE PRINCESS THE AWAKENING KISS!!
GO FOR IT, YAKUMO!!
WH-WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY THAT, TENMA-CHAN?! IT SHOULD BE THE OTHER WAY AROUND!!
KAK
LITTLE SISTER-SAN, CONSIDER YOUR NEXT MOVE CAREFULLY!!
..PRETEND, SO..
IT'LL JUST BE..
UH.— UM...

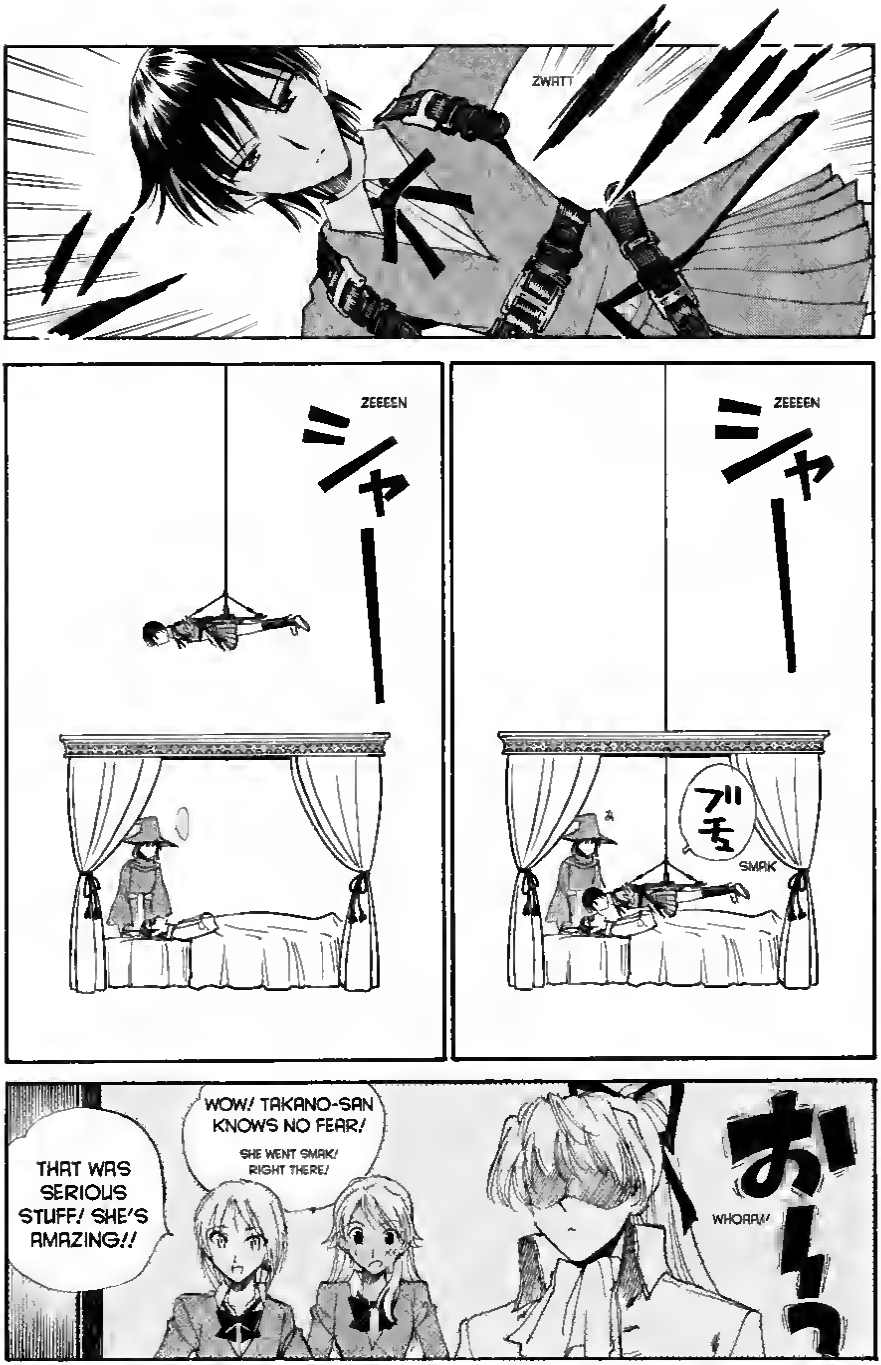
YOU NEEDN'T PRETEND WITH ME. SO GIVE ME A KISS AND GIVE IT ALL YOU'VE GOT!!
PRINCESS HANRI AWAITS THE FATEFUL MOMENT!!
ZWIMM
ざわっ!!

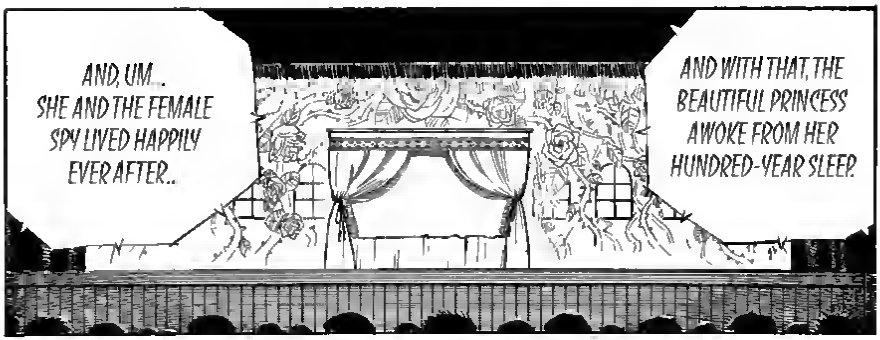

YEAH, YEAH. THREE'S A CROWD, YOU KNOW.
ZGGL ZGGL
LET GO/ PLEASE LET GO!!
P-PLEASE/ YAKUMO-KUN IS IN TROUBLE!!

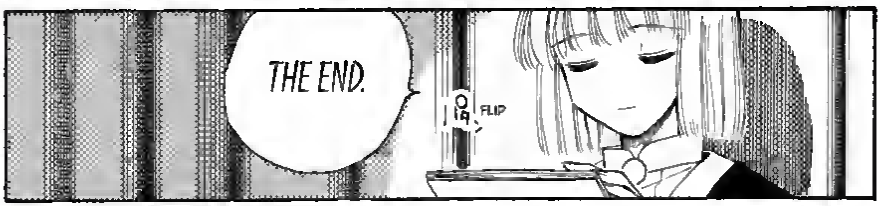

YES, I AM THE RED-RIDING-HOODED SURVIVALIST!!
KACHAK
チャッキ
I'VE FOUND YOU, BIG BAD WOLF!!
WATCH IT OR I REALLY WILL SHOOT/

HEY! HEY! HEY! A-ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO DO THIS, LITTLE SISTER-SAN? I KNOW THIS IS HOW THE STORY IS TURNING OUT, BUT IT'S JUST TOO MUCH!!
I'M ALREADY IN LOVE WITH ONE NAMED TENMA-CHAN.


I'LL COVER IT
—WITH MY HAT...


ZWATT
ZEEEEN
シャー
ZEEEEN
シャー
ブチュ
SMAK
おらっ
WHORA!!
WOW! TAKANO-SAN KNOWS NO FEAR!
SHE WENT SMAK! RIGHT THERE!
THAT WAS SERIOUS STUFF! SHE'S AMAZING!!


AND, UM... SHE AND THE FEMALE SPY LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER..
AND WITH THAT, THE BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS AWOKE FROM HER HUNDRED-YEAR SLEEP.


THE END.
FLIP

わあっ
YAAAYY

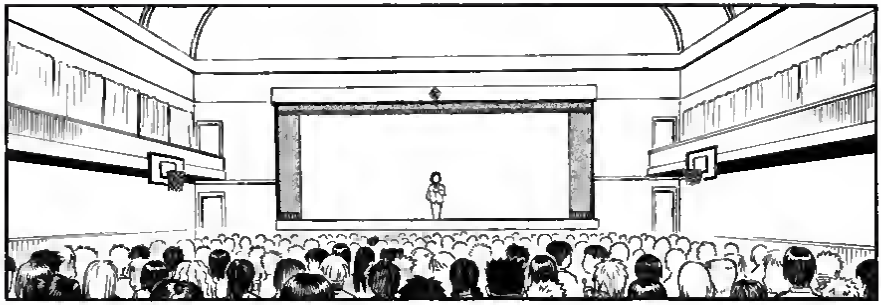
I, TÔGÔ, HAVE TASTED THE CRYSTALIZATION OF YOUR BLOOD, SWEAT, AND TEARS.
YOU'VE SENT SHOCK WAVES THROUGH THE ENTERTAINMENT WORLD!!
KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP
BRAVO!!!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!! THE AUDIENCE LOVED IT!!
JUST DOING THE PERFORMANCE ALONE WAS A WIN!!
WOW, YOU'RE PRETTY STRICT, OKINU!!
ARE WE REALLY GOING TO LEAVE IT AT THAT?

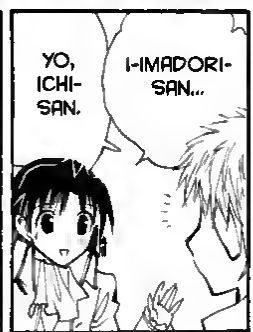
I'M SORRY..
I-I ONLY WANTED TO . HELP THE PLAY..
YOU... DO YOU THINK YOU CAN COME IN AND DO ANYTHING YOU WANT JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE TENMA'S SISTER AND A FAMILIAR FACE TO THE REST OF US?!
UM... SEMPAI ..
I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO INTEREST IN BEARD, AKIRA. I WASN'T TALKING ABOUT THAT.
EH ..?
GWIP
NOW, NOW! BOTH OF YOU CALM DOWN. I ONLY KISSED HIM ON THE NOSE.
IT DOESN'T COUNT
AH! MAYBE I SHOULD PASS ALONG HARIMA'S KISS TO YOU RIGHT NOW!
THE CLOSING PARTY IS GOING TO BE PRETTY ROUGH FOR YOU, YAKUMO.
EH..? NO. WHAT PUT THAT THOUGHT INTO YOUR MIND ..?
SAWACHIKA-SEMPAI ..
I THINK THERE ARE THINGS THAT MUST BE SAID FOR A PERSON'S OWN GOOD, DON'T YOU?
FINE! I WAS JUST TRYING TO CORRECT A BIT OF SPOILED BEHAVIOR.
TWIRL
BUT I THOUGHT YOU BOTH DID A GREAT JOB WITH MIKOTO OUT OF THE PICTURE. BOTH ERI AND YAKUMO. SO FOR TODAY, LET'S JUST... OKAY?

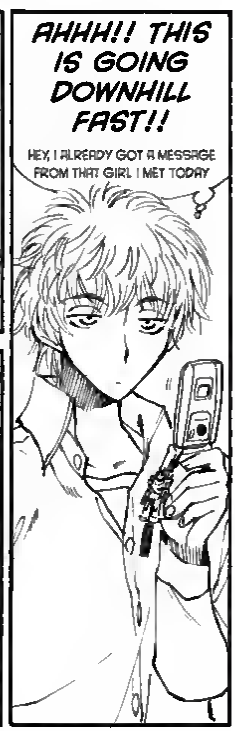
It Seems There's a Closing Party for the Fair...

123 . . . . . Fin



I WANT TO PARTICULARLY COMMEND THE LOCAL GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH CLUB FOR THEIR SUPERB PRESENTATION "TRANSFORMATION OF YAGAMI-GAWA RIVER"
AH YES! AND IN KEEPING WITH THE FESTIVAL SPIRIT, WE SHOULD ALL REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR A BUMPER HARVEST FOR LOCAL YAGAMI FARMERS AND
AND NOW WE BRING YOU THE CLOSING PARTY HOWEVER, I WANT TO STRESS THAT WE MUST KEEP SAFETY FIRST IN MIND AT ALL TIMES!
THIS TWO-DAY CULTURAL FAIR HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION



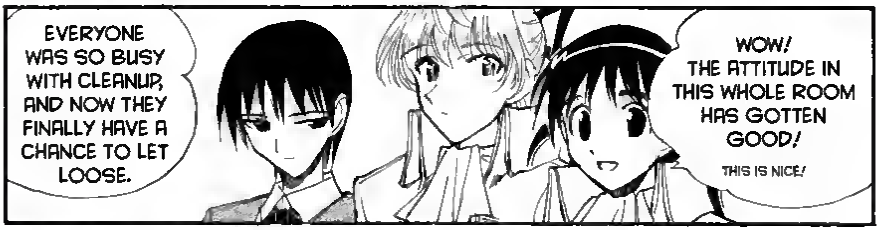


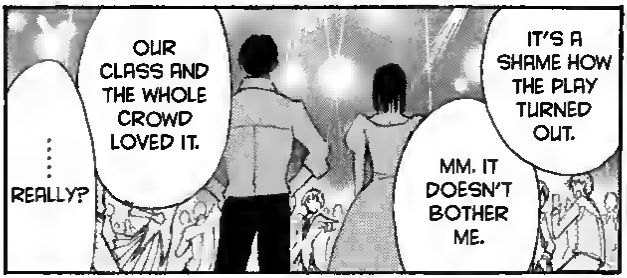
#124 INVITATION TO THE DANCE

HEY, EVERYBODY!! STOP LISTENING TO A BORING LECTURE!! TONIGHT WE'RE GOING TO PARTY!!
FURTHERMORE.. HUH? THE MIKE..
I HAVEN'T FINISHED MY OVERVIEW OF THE YAGAMIGAWA RIVER DURING THE EDO PERIOD!
KACHAK
WHOAA
わぁ
WOW! LOOK!!
WHAT'S THIS?! HUH?!
FOR TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE, WE MANAGED TO GET A LAST-MINUTE BOOKING OF THE BAND THAT WAS THE TALK OF THE FAIR!!
SHAAN

STILL, IT'S A LOT MORE INTERESTING THAN ANYTHING KATÔ-SENSEI WAS SAYING!
EH?! THEY HIJACKED THE STAGE?!
ざわ ざわ
CHATTER CHATTER
HEY, WHAT DO YOU KIDS THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
HERE WE GO!!
NOD
ICHIJÔ, JUST DO IT LIKE WE DID IN PRACTICE, AND YOU'LL BE FINE.
I'll be the one...
OKAY.
UM... WOULD YOU LIKE TO DANCE?
HER VOICE HAS A NICE FEEL TO IT. AND SHE'S CUTE!
WE HAVE A STUDENT LIKE HER IN OUR SCHOOL?
HEY, SHE'S PRETTY GOOD!

I guess you were lost when I met you.
Still there were tears in your eyes.
A helping hand to make it right.
There you were, wild and free.
HUH? IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN HER LOOKING LIKE THAT.
ICHIJÔ...
To hold you...
I'll be the one
I'll be the one
SORRY! DID YOU WAIT LONG?
SO WHERE SHOULD WE GO?
SORRY, BUT...
I'M JUST NOT IN THE MOOD FOR THIS TONIGHT.
MY BAD.
I'll be the light.


EVERYONE WAS SO BUSY WITH CLEANUP, AND NOW THEY FINALLY HAVE A CHANCE TO LET LOOSE.
WOW! THE ATTITUDE IN THIS WHOLE ROOM HAS GOTTEN GOOD!
THIS IS NICE!


OUR CLASS AND THE WHOLE CROWD LOVED IT.
REALLY?
IT'S A SHAME HOW THE PLAY TURNED OUT.
MM. IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME.

HEY, SUÔ!!
HUH?
YAKUMO-CHAN ISN'T HERE, YOU KNOW.

STILL, I WANTED TO PLAY THE PRIN-CESS JUST ONCE.
ALTHOUGH THE PART REALLY ISN'T ME

EH? WHAT'S THAT FOR?!
FINE! THE NEXT SCENE STARTS NOW!
!?
THUMP
DANCE, MIKO-CHAN!!
I'M SO JEALOUS!
WELL, LOOK AT THAT. AND IN COURTLY DRESS AS WELL.
A—
ASÔ ...?
SST
EH...?
IT'S OKAY. DON'T STRAIN YOURSELF. YOU CAN TURN HIM DOWN.
SORRY HANAI IS JUST..
YOU WEREN'T FORCED INTO THIS BY HANAI, WERE YOU?
BESIDES, WITH MATCHING COSTUMES, IT'D BE A SHAME IF WE DIDN'T DANCE.
I CAN'T SAY THAT IT'S ANYTHING OF THE SORT.
A STRAIN?

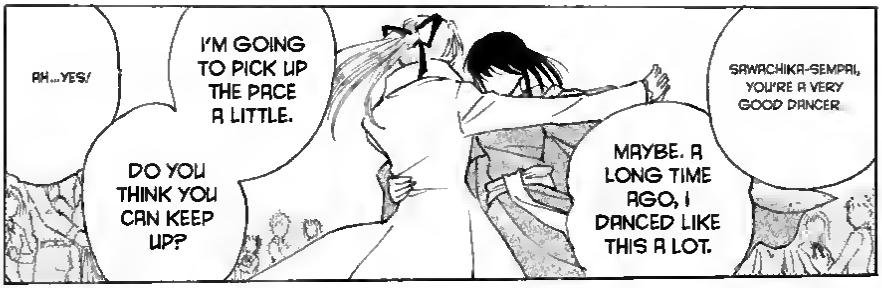
WHO ARE THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS COUPLE?!
THEY LOOK PERFECT TOGETHER!
OOHH!!
おお!
NOW I SEE WHY YOU CAST HER AS PRINCESS!
WOW! MIKO-CHAN IS SO PRETTY!!

IT'S FINE./ AT LEAST, I'M FINE WITH IT.
BUT YOU SHOULD SAY A WORD TO ERI-CHAN...
NEE-SAN...
I'M SO SORRY ABOUT THE PLAY...
YAKU-MO!!
ERI-SEMPAI...
HM...?
ALL YOU GOTTA DO IS APOLO-GIZE, AND SHE'LL FORGIVE YOU.
IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME ANYMORE, SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
I WASN'T VERY ADULT ABOUT IT EITHER BACK THERE.
FORGET IT. IT'S OVER WITH.
YAKU-MO...
I'M VERY SORRY.. I RUINED THE PLAY
AND THANKS TO YOU...
...I DIDN'T HAVE TO PLAY OUT THAT LAST SCENE WITH BEARD.

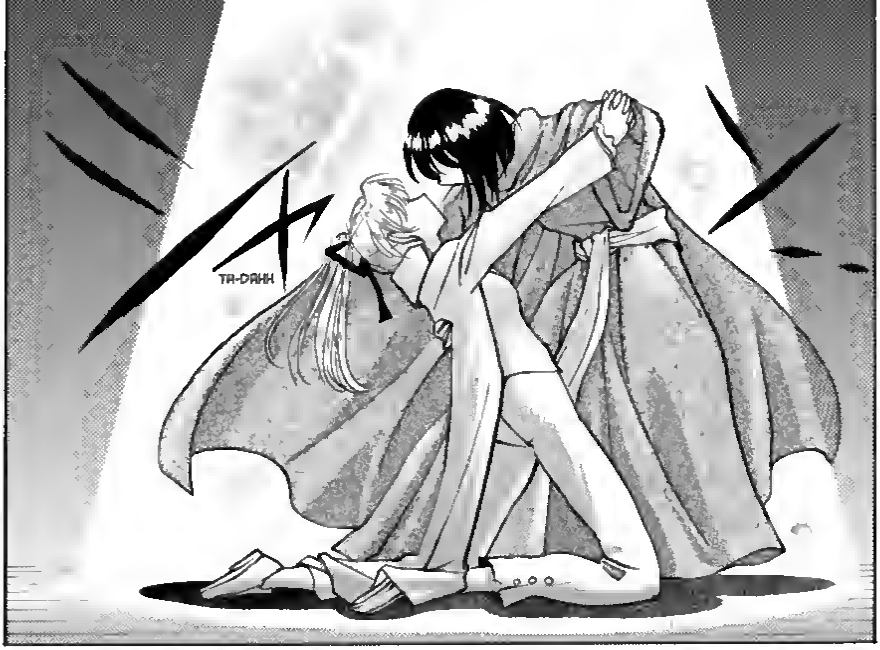
...AND I DON'T FEEL LIKE DANCING WITH THE BOYS RIGHT NOW.
I'D RATHER NOT JUST STAND HERE...
EH...?
SAY, DO YOU WANT TO DANCE?
!!
HEY, LOOK OVER THERE!!
ALL RIGHT
IF YOU DON'T MIND DANCING WITH ME.
IT LOOKS LIKE THEY MADE UP.
Y-YOU THINK SO..?
...HAVE A PRETTY GOOD INSTINCT FOR DANCING.
HUH? YOU...
CAN I ASK YOU ONE QUES-TION?

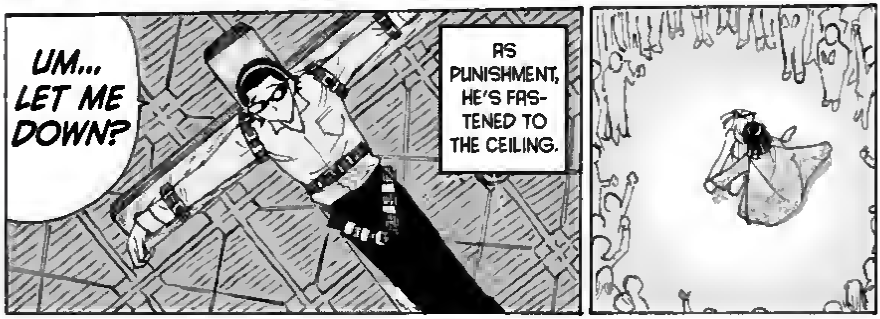
This Is Also Playing the Next Scene.

YOU AND BEARD...
ARE YOU REALLY GOING OUT?
I'M JUST..
NO. NOT REALLY..
EH...?
WE AREN'T DATING.
HARIMA-SEMPAI ONLY ASKED ME TO HELP HIM OUT A LITTLE.
IS THAT HOW IT IS...?
REALLY...?
.....


AH...YES!
I'M GOING TO PICK UP THE PACE A LITTLE.
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN KEEP UP?
SAWACHIKA-SEMPAI, YOU'RE A VERY GOOD DANCER.
MAYBE. A LONG TIME AGO, I DANCED LIKE THIS A LOT.

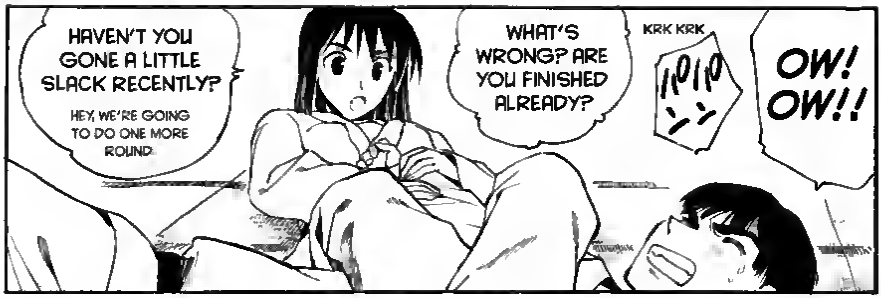
WOWW
おお
HERE WE GO!!

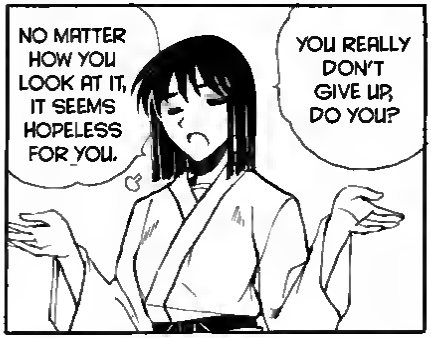




Sleeping Beard.

124 · · · · · · · · · Fin


HAVEN'T YOU GONE A LITTLE SLACK RECENTLY?
HEY, WE'RE GOING TO DO ONE MORE ROUND.
WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU FINISHED ALREADY?
KRK KRK
IPIP
OW! OW!!

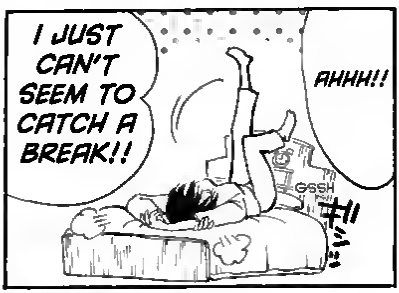

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, IT SEEMS HOPELESS FOR YOU.
YOU REALLY DON'T GIVE UP, DO YOU?

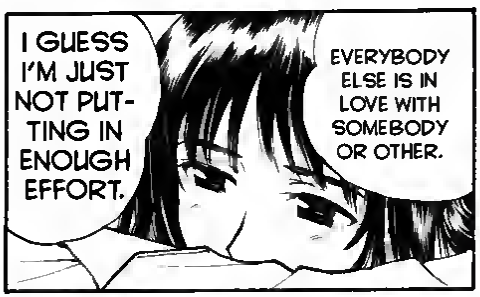
ARE YOU STILL BROODING OVER THE PLAY?
HMM... YAKUMO-KUN ALREADY HAS ME ANY TIME SHE WANTS.
A JERK LIKE HARIMA... WHY HIM?

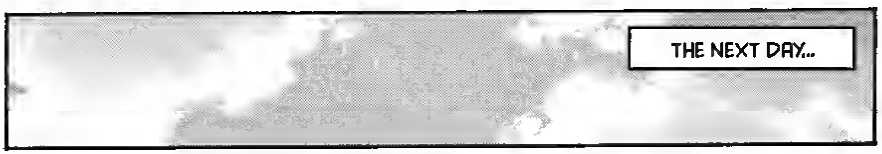
URK...
I ENVY YOU, AND THE FACT THAT YOU'RE NOWHERE CLOSE TO HAVING SUCH WORRIES.
OF COURSE YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND HOW I FEEL.

#125 HEAT

BUT THERE'S NO HELP FOR IT. I JUST HAVEN'T FOUND ANYBODY THAT INTERESTS ME.
HAHHHH...
LOVE, HUH...?


I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO CATCH A BREAK!!
AHHH!!
GOSH

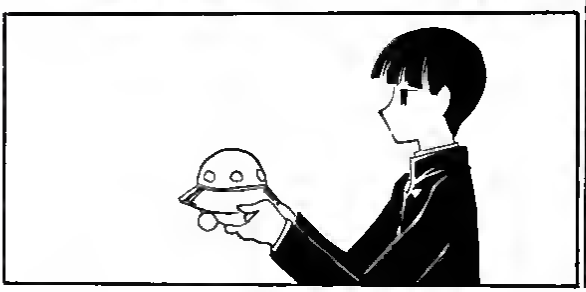

I GUESS I'M JUST NOT PUTTING IN ENOUGH EFFORT.
EVERYBODY ELSE IS IN LOVE WITH SOMEBODY OR OTHER.

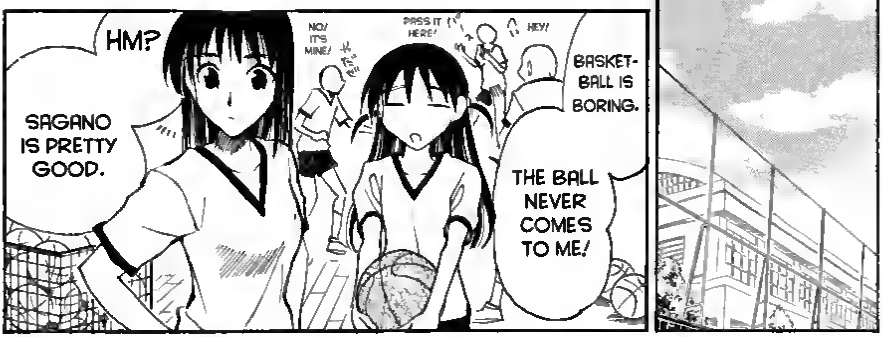

THE NEXT DAY...

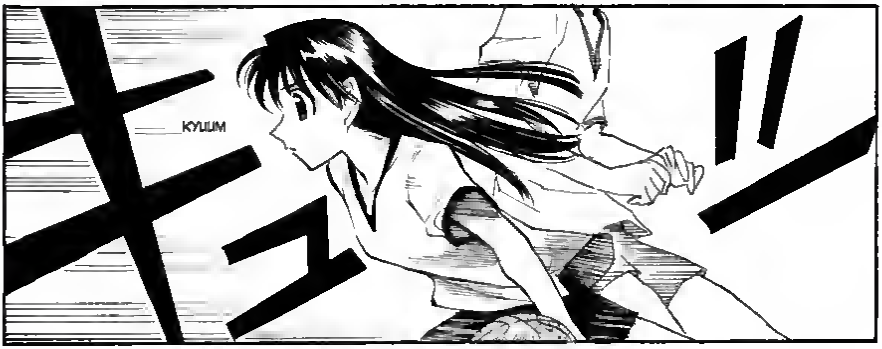
HM? I GUESS HE DOESN'T CHANGE MUCH, HUH?

KARASUMA-KUN IS PASSION-ATE ABOUT UFOs THESE DAYS.

WELL, HOW'S IT GOING, TENMA? DIDN'T YOU GO HOME WITH HIM A LITTLE WHILE BACK?
YEAH, AND WE TALKED ABOUT ALL SORTS OF THINGS. IT WAS FUN!




HM?
SAGANO IS PRETTY GOOD.
NO! IT'S MINE!
PASS IT HERE!
HEY!
BASKET-BALL IS BORING.
THE BALL NEVER COMES TO ME!


KYUUM
キュッ!!

BECAUSE THEY DON'T HAVE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HERE. IT'S TOO BAD, TOO.
THEN WHY ISN'T SHE ON THE TEAM HERE IN HIGH SCHOOL?

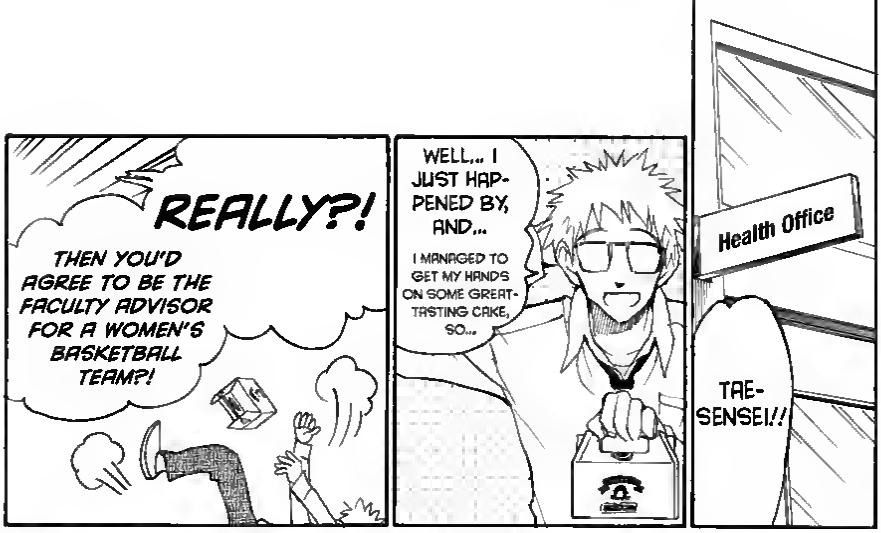
WAS SHE? SHE REALLY HAS GREAT REFLEXES, HUH?
AND SHE WAS ON THE RELAY TEAM.
SHE WAS A STARTER FROM HER FIRST YEAR ON.
SAGANO WAS ON THE BASKET-BALL TEAM IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

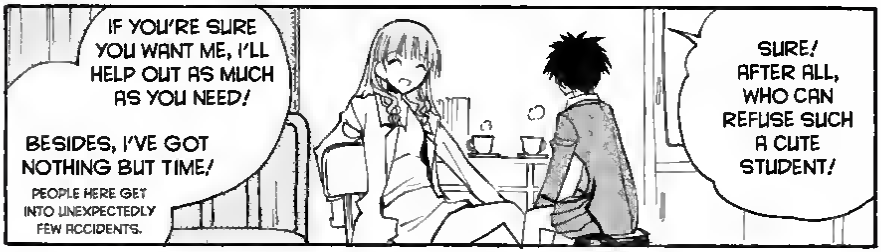
REALLY? SHE IS?
HEY, LOOK! THE GUY'S GAME HAS STARTED!
SO SHE'S THE MANAGER OF THE GUY'S TEAM.

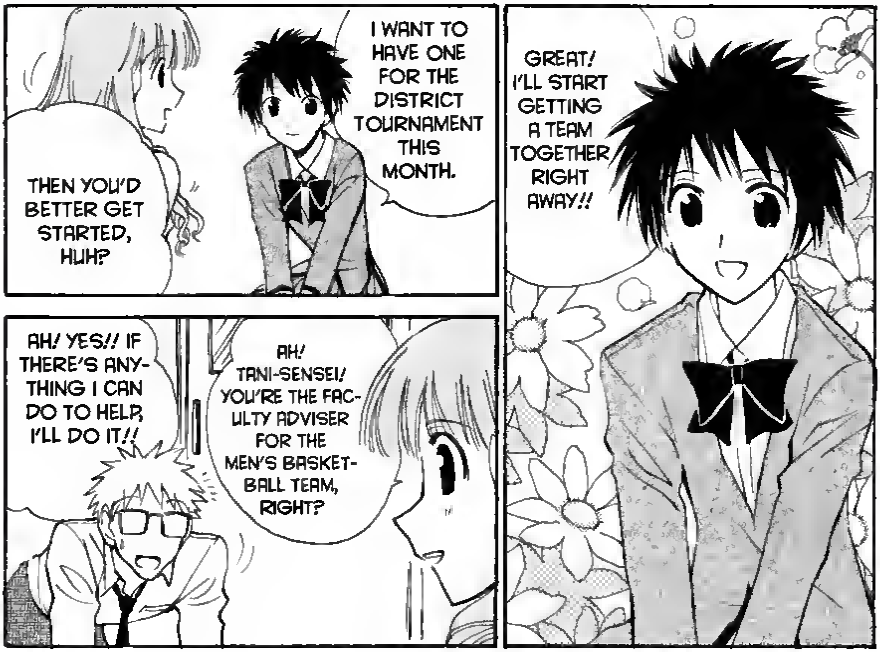
DAMMIT! PULL YOUR PUNCHES A BIT, WILL YA, ASÔ?!
YEAH! A FACE-OFF BETWEEN BASKETBALL TEAM-MATES!! IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN A GOOD MATCH, BUT HE BREEZED BY SUGA.

HYUUU! HE'S AMAZING!
I'D EVEN CALL HIM A LITTLE COOL!
ASÔ-KUN WILL BE CAPTAIN NEXT SEASON.
AND A PERFECT TEXT-BOOK LAYUP!!
A LIGHTNING-QUICK DRIVE!!
SHUMP
PRO-LEVEL PLAYERS ARE A CLASS ABOVE!!

ASÔ-KUN!! SHOW US YOUR BEST STUFF, OKAY?!
GRNCH
HELP ME DOWN, YOU BRATS!
MY HAND'S STUCK.
HEY!!
BWRRR
HEH...
HARIMA IS HANG-ING IN THERE, TOO!!
WOW!! THIS GUY ACTU-ALLY DUNKED IT!!


Health Office
TAE-SENSEI!!
WELL... I JUST HAPPENED BY, AND...
I MANAGED TO GET MY HANDS ON SOME GREAT-TASTING CAKE, SO...
REALLY?!
THEN YOU'D AGREE TO BE THE FACULTY ADVISOR FOR A WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM?!

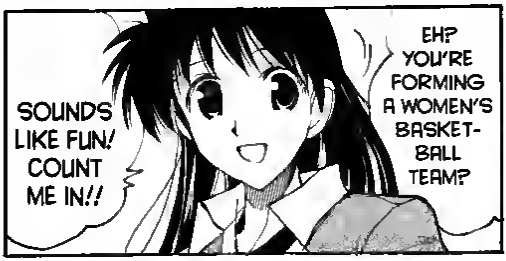

SURE! AFTER ALL, WHO CAN REFUSE SUCH A CUTE STUDENT!
IF YOU'RE SURE YOU WANT ME, I'LL HELP OUT AS MUCH AS YOU NEED!
BESIDES, I'VE GOT NOTHING BUT TIME!
PEOPLE HERE GET INTO UNEXPECTEDLY FEW ACCIDENTS.

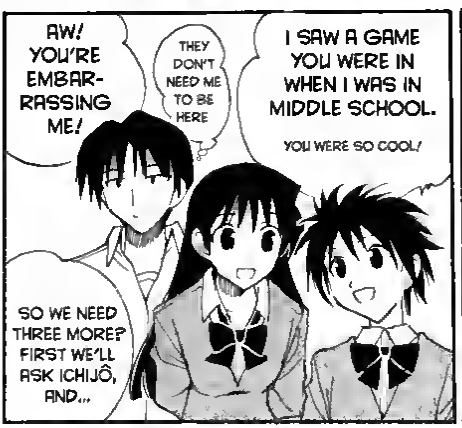

I WANT TO HAVE ONE FOR THE DISTRICT TOURNAMENT THIS MONTH.
THEN YOU'D BETTER GET STARTED, HUH?
GREAT! I'LL START GETTING A TEAM TOGETHER RIGHT AWAY!!
AH! YES!! IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP, I'LL DO IT!!
AH! TANI-SENSEI! YOU'RE THE FACULTY ADVISER FOR THE MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM, RIGHT?

TANI-SENSEI TOLD YOU THAT I'D HELP?
HUH?

THANK YOU SO MUCH!!
I DON'T KNOW. IT'S KIND OF SUDDEN, AND...
THE BEST THING TO DO IS TALK TO SAGANO.

YES!
HE SAID THAT ASÔ-SEMPAI UNDER-STANDS EVERY-THING ABOUT BASKET-BALL!!


SOUNDS LIKE FUN! COUNT ME IN!!
EH? YOU'RE FORMING A WOMEN'S BASKET-BALL TEAM?


AW! YOU'RE EMBAR-RASSING ME!
THEY DON'T NEED ME TO BE HERE
I SAW A GAME YOU WERE IN WHEN I WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
YOU WERE SO COOL!
SO WE NEED THREE MORE? FIRST WE'LL ASK ICHIJÔ, AND...

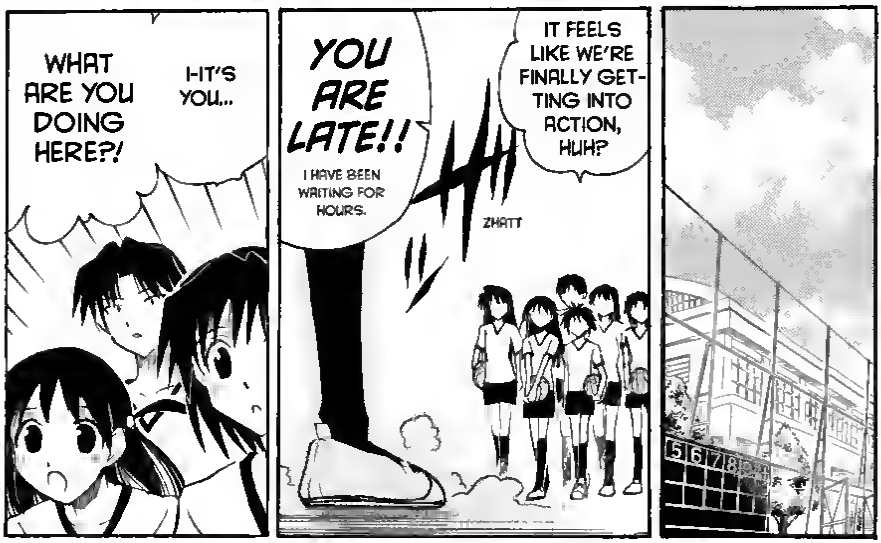
IT'S VERY NICE TO MEET YOU, TOO!!
WOW! YOU'RE CUTE, TOO!
SO YOU'RE TAWARAYA SATSUKI? WELL, NICE TO MEET YOU!!
FORMING A WOMEN'S TEAM! THAT'S IMPRESSIVE!

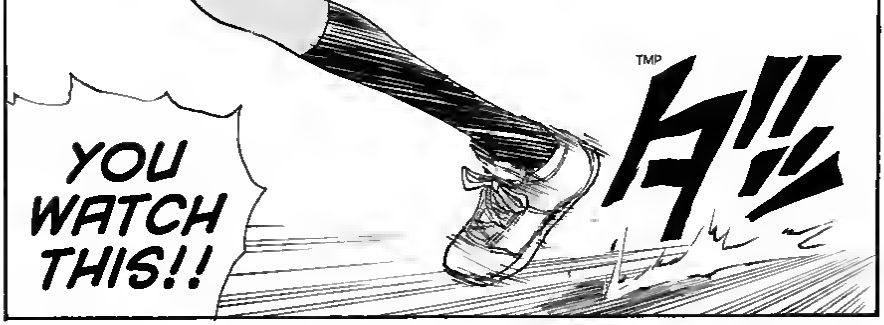
I'M SORRY, BUT I'VE GOT PLANS FOR THE WHOLE MONTH.
I'D LOVE TO HELP OUT, BUT I'LL HAVE TO ASK YOU TO FIND SOME-BODY ELSE.
Pi
Id
.....
AH! I'M A LITTLE...
YOU! YOU'VE GOT NOTHING BETTER TO DO.
GLEEM
B-BMP
B-BMP
EH? HEY, WAIT A SECOND!!
I'VE GOT DOJO AND...
YOU'RE WORTH A HUNDRED PLAYERS, MIKO-CHAN!!
COME ON!! LET'S DO IT!!
UM... BUT STARTING OUT AS A SECOND-YEAR STUDENT...
SUÔ-SAN, I'D LIKE TO ADD MY VOICE AND ASK YOU TO BE ON THE TEAM, TOO!!

Tsukamoto Tenma: Invites Herself to Join.

I THINK IT'D BE A GOOD IDEA FOR YOU TO JUMP INTO AN UNFAMILIAR ARENA.
IT'S PERFECT TIMING FOR YOU.

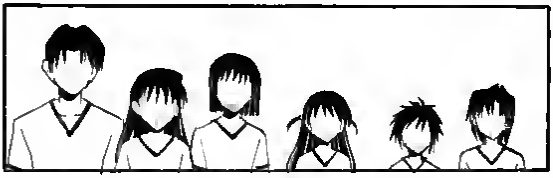
YAAY!! NOW WE'VE GOT ALL FIVE PLAY-ERS!!
Y...
YEAH, MAYBE.
THEN I'LL GIVE IT A TRY.


WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
I-IT'S YOU...
YOU ARE LATE!!
I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR HOURS.
ZHATT
IT FEELS LIKE WE'RE FINALLY GET-TING INTO ACTION, HUH?


YOU WATCH THIS!!
TMP
ドゥ!!

KRIK KRIK KRIK
ギ…
ギッ
ギッ
ボロ!
KRAKK

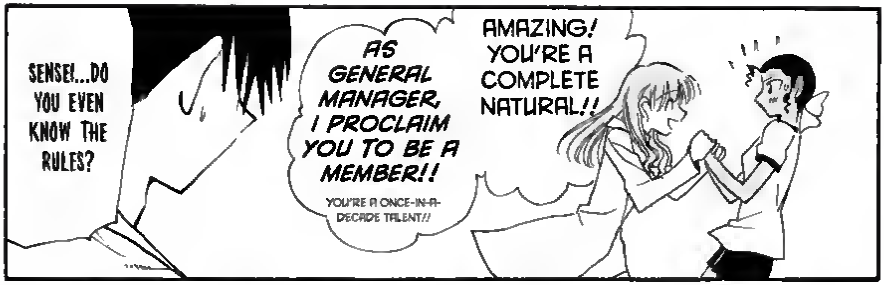
SLAMM

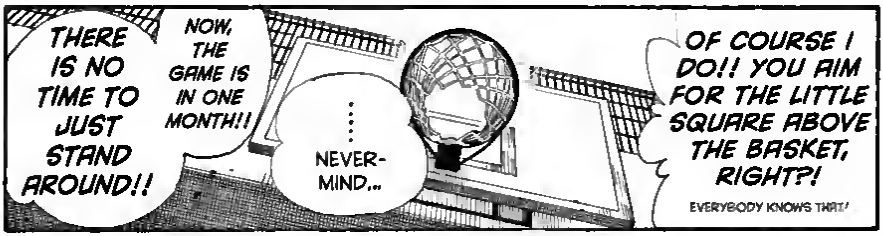


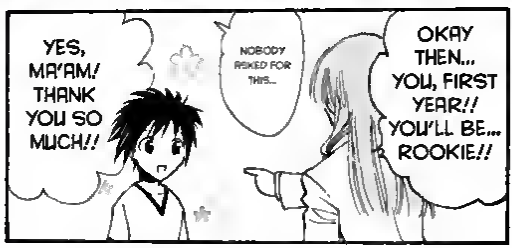
I-I SEE...
AT VERY LEAST, SHE REMEMBER TO PUT BALL IN BASKET...
NOW IS OUR TIME UP. REST IS UP TO YOU

...SHE NOT TAKE NO FOR ANSWER UNTIL WE TEACH HER BASKETBALL.
LALA HEAR THAT ICHIJÔ PLAY...
SHK
THERE-FORE, WE ENGAGED IN 24-HOUR RELENTLESS TRAINING.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?!
100 POINTS, COR-RECT?!
ZHANN


SENSEI...DO YOU EVEN KNOW THE RULES?
AS GENERAL MANAGER, I PROCLAIM YOU TO BE A MEMBER!!
YOU'RE A ONCE-IN-A-DECADE TALENT!!
AMAZING! YOU'RE A COMPLETE NATURAL!!


THERE IS NO TIME TO JUST STAND AROUND!!
NOW, THE GAME IS IN ONE MONTH!!
NEVER-MIND...
OF COURSE I DO!! YOU AIM FOR THE LITTLE SQUARE ABOVE THE BASKET, RIGHT?!
EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT!


YES, MA'AM! THANK YOU SO MUCH!!
NOBODY ASKED FOR THIS...
OKAY THEN... YOU, FIRST YEAR!! YOU'LL BE... ROOKIE!!

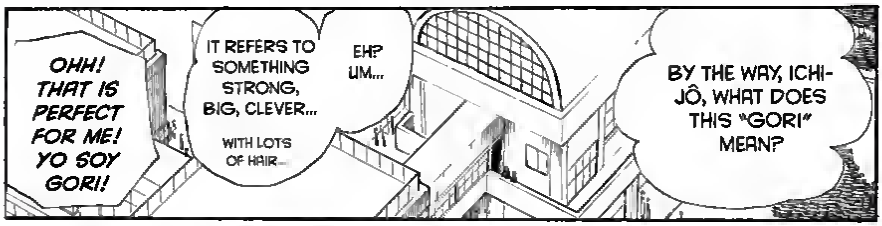
S-SENSEI, I DON'T WANT...
YOU! YOU'RE ICHI-SAN!!

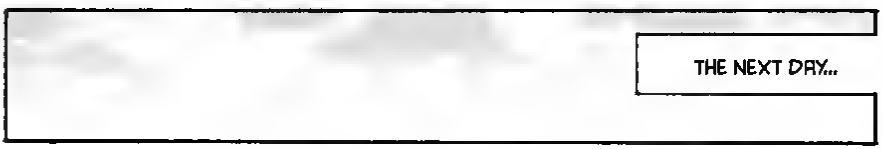
SINCE MY FAMILY OWNS A JAPANESE RESTAU-RANT, HUH?
NEXT, YOU'RE "OKAMI"!!

HMM... NEXT FOR LALA. YOU'LL BE...
WAIT... WHAT DID YOU START TO SAY JUST THEN?!
YOU'LL BE D– NO, YOU'LL BE MIKO-CHIN!

THE THING YOU PEOPLE NEED TO LEARN FIRST IS TEAM-WORK!!
SO FROM NOW ON, YOU WILL ONLY CALL EACH OTHER BY THE NAMES I DECIDE! MANAGER'S ORDERS!!
EHH?!

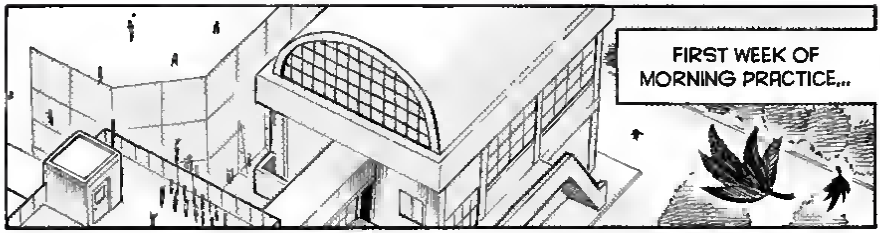
THAT IS A VERY STRONG NAME, IS IT NOT?!
I FEEL POWER WITHIN ME!
GRACIAS, TAE!!
GORI!
I THINK THAT'S THE ONLY NAME POSSIBLE

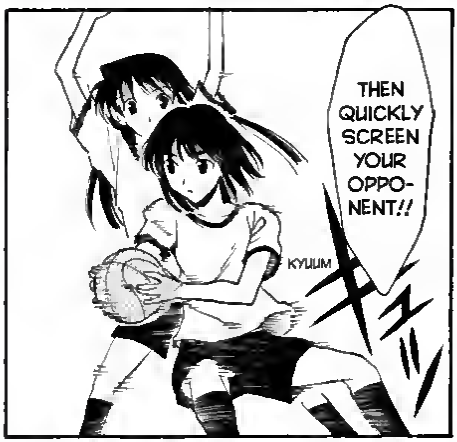

OHH! THAT IS PERFECT FOR ME! YO SOY GORI!
IT REFERS TO SOMETHING STRONG, BIG, CLEVER...
WITH LOTS OF HAIR...
EH? UM....
BY THE WAY, ICHI-JÔ, WHAT DOES THIS "GORI" MEAN?

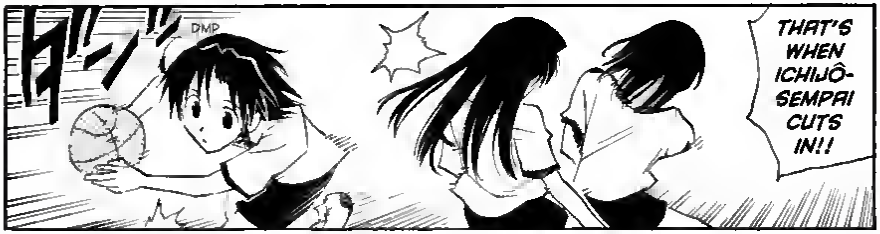

THE NEXT DAY...

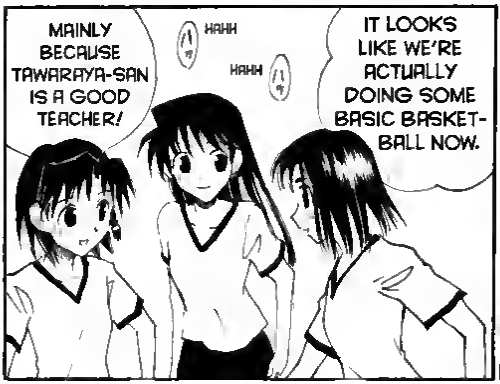
YOU HAVE TRICKED ME!!!
ICHI-JÔ!!
TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP
HAHAHAHAHA

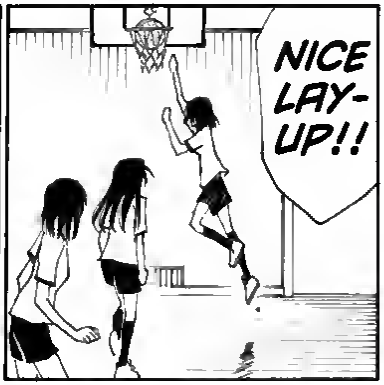
125 · · · · · · · · · Fin



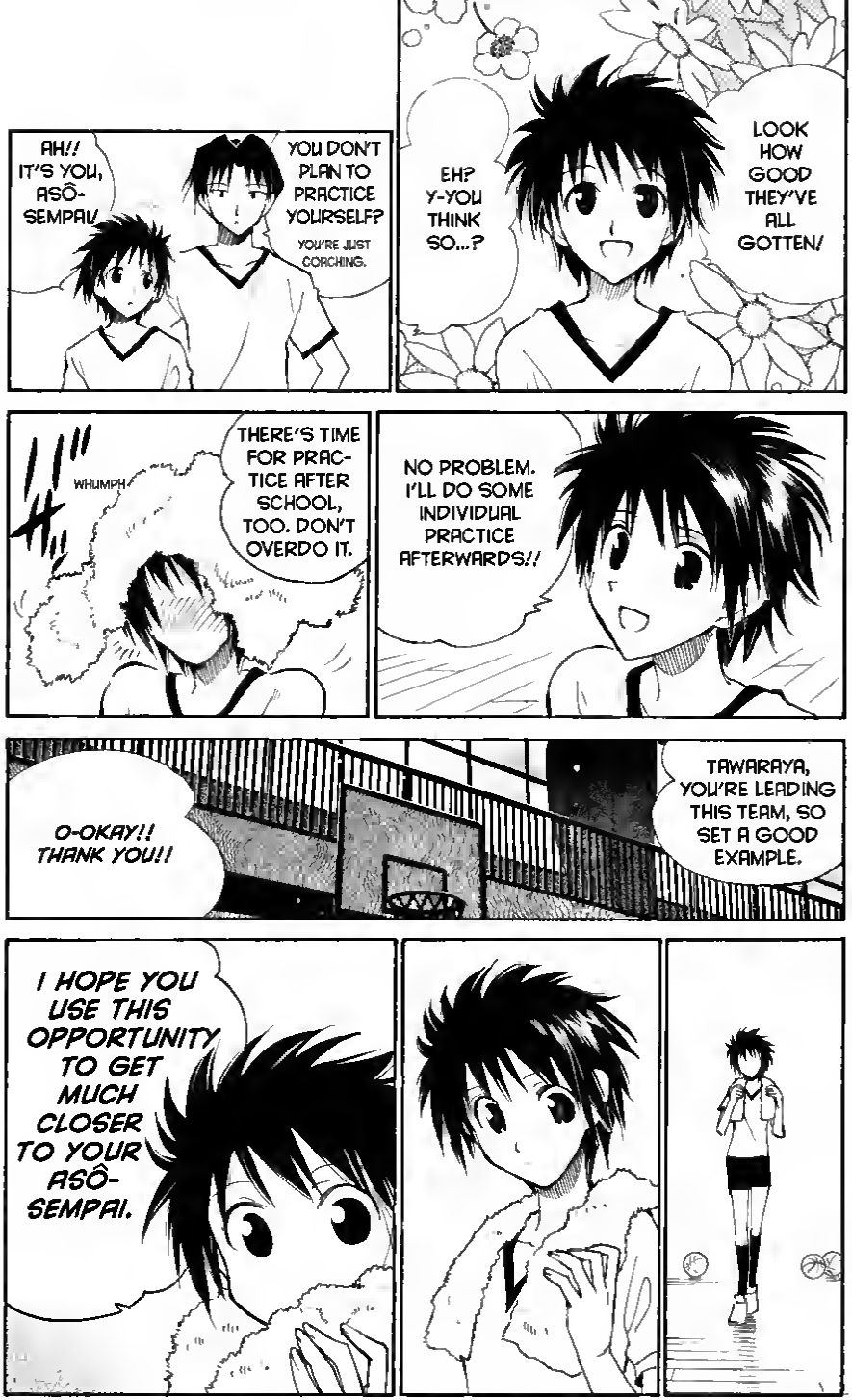








#126 STRIPTEASE


AH!! IT'S YOU, ASÔ-SEMPAI!
YOU DON'T PLAN TO PRACTICE YOURSELF?
YOU'RE JUST COACHING.
EH? Y-YOU THINK SO...?
LOOK HOW GOOD THEY'VE ALL GOTTEN!
WHUMPH
THERE'S TIME FOR PRACTICE AFTER SCHOOL, TOO. DON'T OVERDO IT.
NO PROBLEM. I'LL DO SOME INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE AFTERWARDS!!
O-OKAY!! THANK YOU!!
TAWARAYA, YOU'RE LEADING THIS TEAM, SO SET A GOOD EXAMPLE.
I HOPE YOU USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GET MUCH CLOSER TO YOUR ASÔ-SEMPAI.

IN MY EXPERIENCE, YOU MUST "KNOW THE ENEMY AND KNOW YOURSELF, THEN YOU NEED NOT FEAR THE RESULT OF A HUNDRED BATTLES."
IT WAS FROM THIS ESSAY BY A WOMAN NAMED SONKO.
GIVE IT ALL YOU'VE GOT, OKAY?
SNERK
REALLY? IS THAT HOW IT IS...? ♡
THAT SONKO REALLY KNOWS HER STUFF!
ASÔ-SEMPAI IS JUST MY SEMPAI.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
BUT WHY DID YOU AGREE TO IT IN THE FIRST PLACE?
A WHOLE WEEK ALREADY? YOU'VE REALLY BEEN HARD AT PRACTICE.
YOU KNOW, ONCE YOU TRY BASKETBALL, IT'S PRETTY FUN.
BUT MORNING PRACTICE MAKES IT HARD.
2・C
AH!! IT'S BECAUSE OF WHAT HANAI-KUN SAID TO YOU!!
I WISH I HAD A CHILDHOOD FRIEND LIKE THAT!!
I-IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT!!
YOU'RE ATTENDING DOJO, TOO, AREN'T YOU?

WHEN I SAW SATSUKI-CHAN...
...I FELT THAT I WANTED TO COMMIT MYSELF.
IN A LOT OF WAYS.
HUH? SHE DIDN'T LOOK LIKE THAT TYPE.
BUT YOU SURE KNOW A LOT ABOUT IT, HUH?
OH, IS THAT RIGHT?
SHE'S IN THE SAME CLASS AS YAKUMO!
SHE GETS A LOT OF NUTRITION, BUT SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO GROW MUCH.
THEY SAY SHE GOES TO THE HEALTH OFFICE OFTEN TO GET MEASURED.
YOU MEAN THAT FIRST-YEAR GIRL?
SHE DOES SEEM LIKE THE COMMITTED TYPE, HUH?
BUT WITH HER HEIGHT, BASKETBALL MIGHT BE A HARD SPORT TO PICK.
EHH?!
IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S IN LOVE WITH ASÔ-KUN!!
WHAT'S WITH THE SUDDEN MOOD SHIFT?
OH YEAH! ABOUT SATSUKI-CHAN!!
MWA HA HA HA!!
URK! WELL, I WOKE UP ON TIME ONCE, BUT I COULDN'T FIGHT THE EVIL MAGIC OF MY BED..
TEE HEE!
WHAT I WANT TO KNOW, TENMA, IS IF YOU'RE HELPING THE TEAM AT ALL.
RIGHT! RIGHT! THE PLEASURES OF YOUTH!!
BUT NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
...SHE DOES SPEND A LOT OF TIME BY ASÔ'S SIDE.

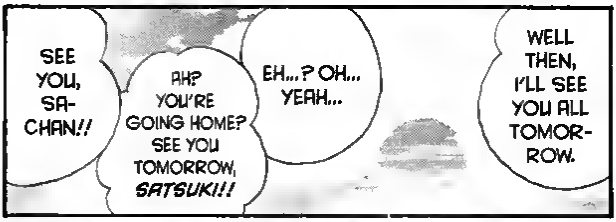
GOOD!!
YOU'VE ADVANCED QUITE A BIT.
KYUUM
THERE! NOW TURN AND SHOOT!!
WHOOSH
YOU AREN'T A BEGINNER. YOU SHOW A LOT OF PROMISE.
YOU'VE ALSO GOT THE HEIGHT FOR IT.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED YOU TO GUIDE ALONG A COMPLETE BEGINNER LIKE ME.
SORRY ABOUT THIS, ASÔ.
ALL RIGHT!
LET'S GIVE IT A TRY!!
SUÔ-SEMPAI!!
LET'S PLAY ONE-ON-ONE!!
IT'S TIME FOR REAL COMPETITION!!
HM?
I'M NOWHERE NEAR READY.

KYUUN
WHOOSH
TWR
SHE WENT LOW—
KH... YOU'RE NOT GETTING AROUND ME!!
TMP
FOOMPH
AH!!
HEY, YOU TWO! WE'RE FINISHED FOR THE DAY.
GRR
SHMP
THAT WAS THE QUICK TURN!
I'M STILL NOT VERY GOOD AT IT
SAY, DOESN'T YOUR FAMILY RUN A CHINESE FOOD PLACE, ASÔ-KUN?
HM? YEAH. WHAT ABOUT IT?
YOU'RE RIGHT. WE REALLY GOT A LOT OF EXERCISE TODAY, HUH?
PHEW!! I'M STARVING!!
LET'S GO EAT SOMEWHERE!

N-NO... THAT'S NOT SUCH A GOOD IDEA...
FIND SOMEPLACE ELSE. OKAY?
YAAAY
わぁ!!
THANKS SO MUCH FOR OFFERING!!
THEN WE'LL ALL INVADE THE ASÔ FAMILY RESTAURANT AND GET DINNER!!

!!
I-I HAVE TO..UM.. I'VE GOT SOMEPLACE ELSE THAT I HAVE TO BE, SO I CAN'T GO.
HEY, TAWARAYA! WE'RE ALL GOING FOR DINNER. DO YOU WANT TO COME ALONG?
EVERYBODY'S GOING.

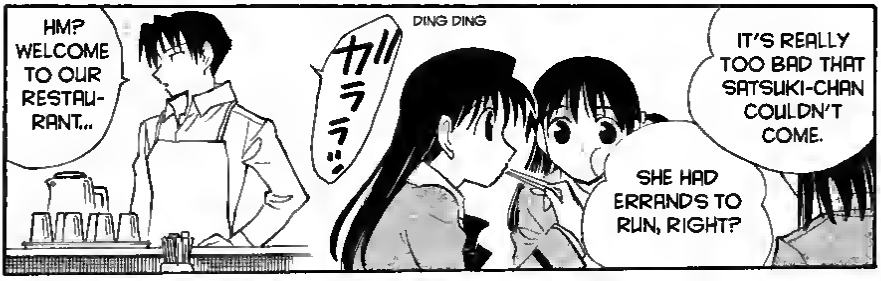
WHA— SUGA!! WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?!
OKAY! MY LITTLE HONEYS, YOU CAN LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME!!
SHINING
ピカーン


SEE YOU, SA-CHAN!!
AH? YOU'RE GOING HOME? SEE YOU TOMORROW, SATSUKI!!
EH...? OH... YEAH...
WELL THEN, I'LL SEE YOU ALL TOMORROW.

CHINESE FOOD: KÔRAKU. ASÔ'S HOME.

REALLY..?
THAT'S GOTTA BE IT. SHE'S TOO EMBARRASSED TO GO TO ASÔ'S PLACE.
WHAT'LL WE DO WITH HER?

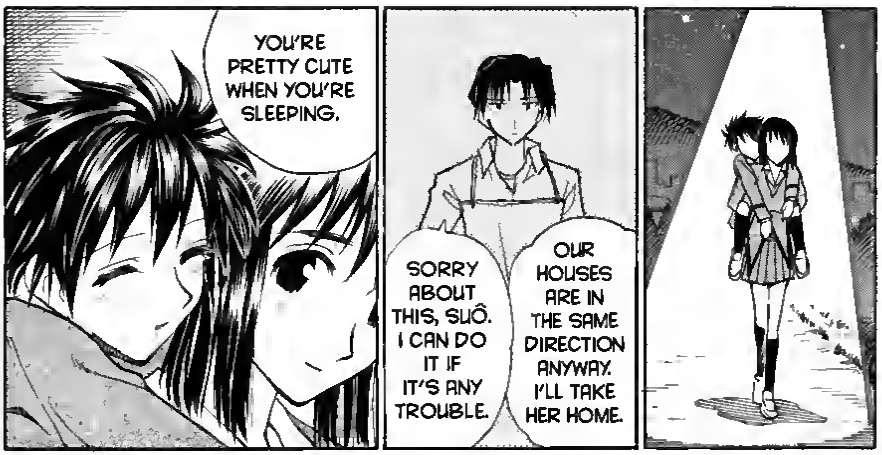
YAAAY!!
IT'S DELI-CIOUS!!
ASÔ-CHAN, YOU'RE THE BEST!!
GO HOME, YOU GUYS...


DING DING
カランラン
HMP WELCOME TO OUR RESTAU-RANT...
IT'S REALLY TOO BAD THAT SATSUKI-CHAN COULDN'T COME.
SHE HAD ERRANDS TO RUN, RIGHT?

I'LL HAVE ONE KÔRAKU FULL-STOMACH DINNER SET!
STMP STMP
すた
すた

HMM... REALLY?
AH! I HAD PLANS TO COME HERE EARLIER. PLEASE DON'T GET THE IMPRESSION THAT I FOLLOWED YOU HERE.
SO DON'T MIND ME.
ASÔ-SEMPAI!!
HUH?
MY PART-TIME JOB IS AT A DIFFERENT CHINESE RESTAURANT.
I'M ALMOST FORCED INTO THE PART
YOU CERTAINLY LOOK DRESSED FOR THE PART.
ASÔ-SEMPAI!!
OH, THAT?
IT'S AT THE MEI-LI RESTAURANT NEAR THE STATION
AND THE GUYS COME ALL THE TIME
YOU HAVE A PART-TIME JOB? WHERE IS IT?
YOU WANT TO ORDER SOMETHING ELSE?
WHAT IS IT, TAWARAYA?
G-GOT IT. YOU HAVE ROOM FOR ANOTHER?
YES!! I WOULD LIKE ANOTHER KÔRAKU FULL-STOMACH DINNER SET PLEASE!!

YOU'D BETTER NOT, REALLY!
YOU'LL HAVE TOO FULL A STOMACH!!
ONE MORE FULL-STOMACH SET!!
.....
.....
HUUUMP
GAMPH
GAMPH
UH...
.....
UM...
ASÔ-SEMPAI...
H-HEY!
WHUMP
I THINK... I'M... DONE...


YOU'RE PRETTY CUTE WHEN YOU'RE SLEEPING.
SORRY ABOUT THIS, SUÔ. I CAN DO IT IF IT'S ANY TROUBLE.
OUR HOUSES ARE IN THE SAME DIRECTION ANYWAY. I'LL TAKE HER HOME.

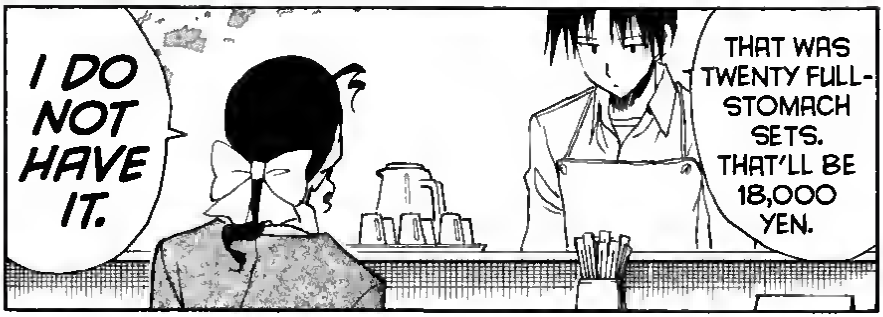
SHE CAN DO IT. EVERYBODY HAS THAT MUCH STRENGTH.

STOP TRYING TO FOOL HERSELF AND ATTACK THE PROBLEM AT FULL POWER!

SHE SHOULD JUST COME OUT AND ADMIT IT.

BUT SHE'S GOING OVERBOARD.

BESIDES, SHE'S REALLY PRETTY...



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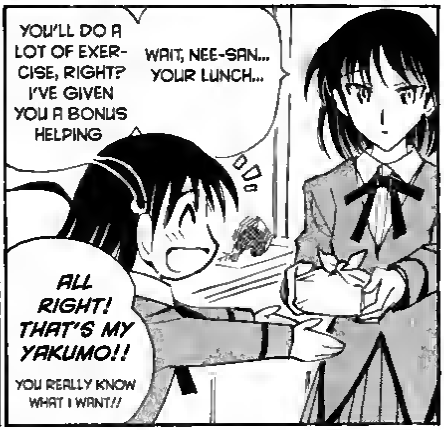
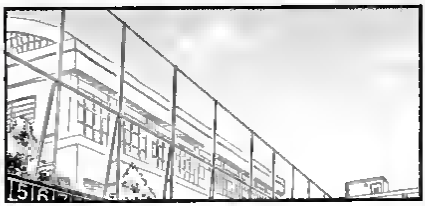
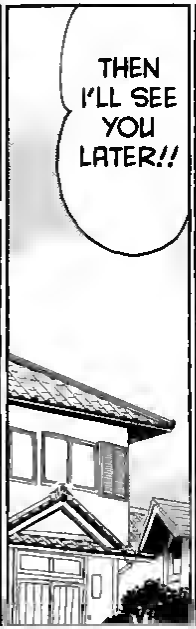

YOU'LL DO A LOT OF EXERCISE, RIGHT? I'VE GIVEN YOU A BONUS HELPING
WAIT, NEE-SAN... YOUR LUNCH...
ALL RIGHT! THAT'S MY YAKUMO!!
YOU REALLY KNOW WHAT I WANT!!

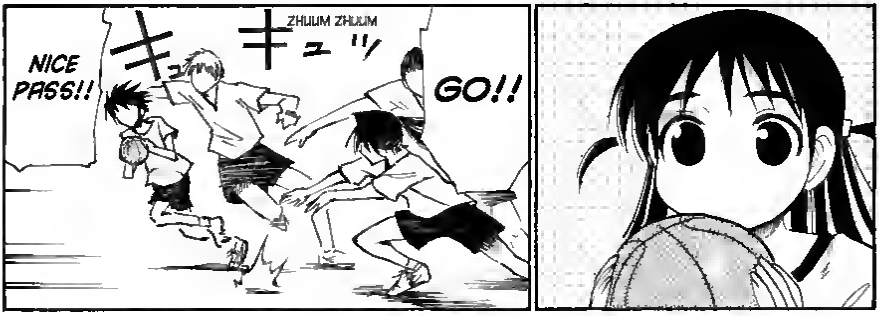


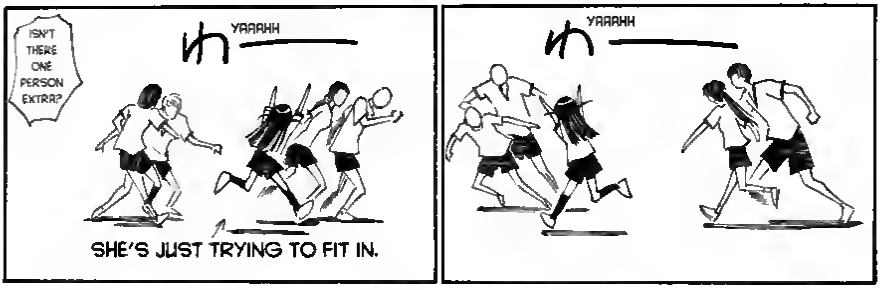


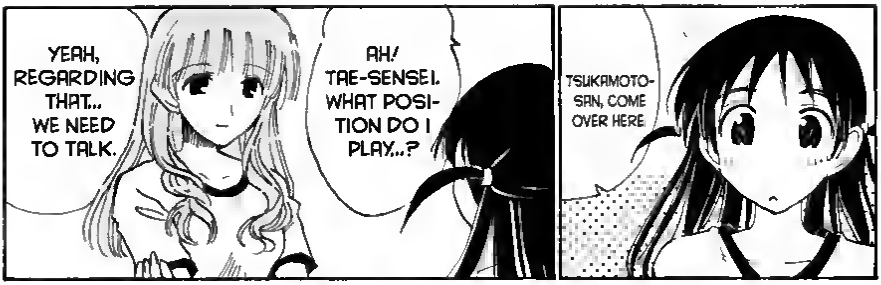
#127 THE ROOKIE

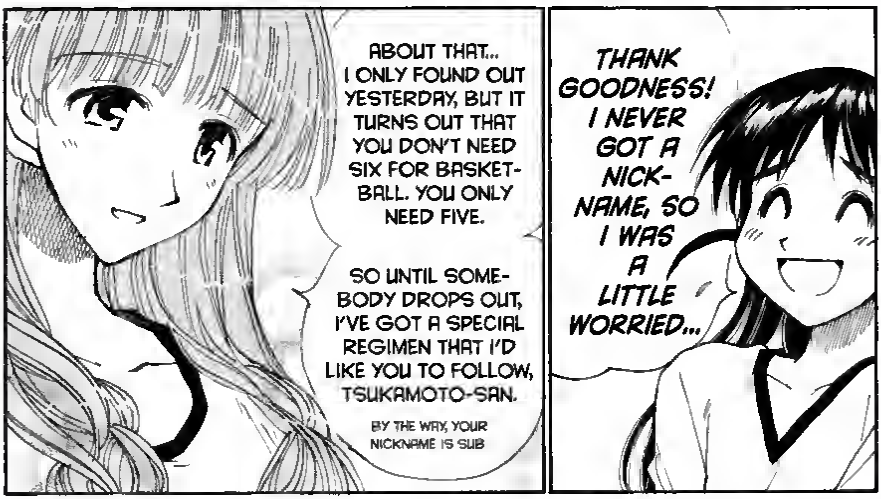
キュッ
ZHUUM
RIGHT!! NOW I WILL TAKE TWO POINTS.

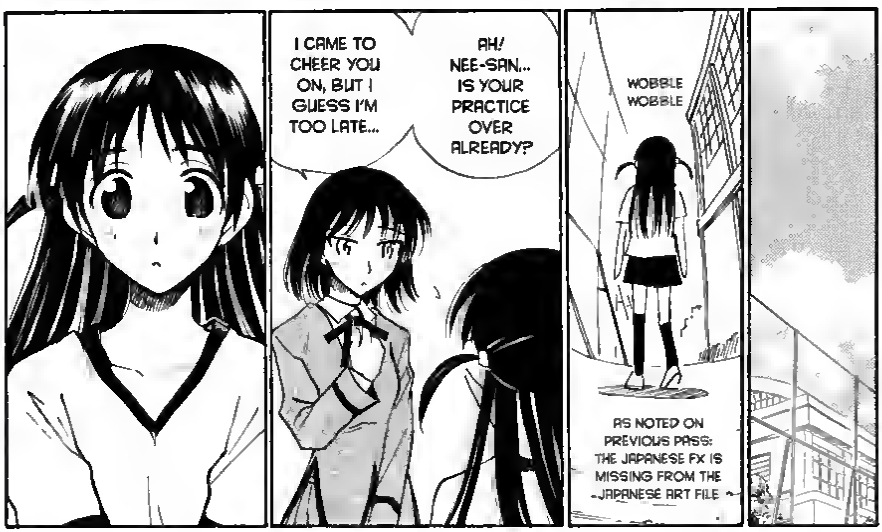
SINCE YOU'RE ALL STILL NEW AT THIS, THE ONLY WAY TO WIN THE TOURNAMENT IS TO COMBINE EVERYONE'S STRENGTHS!! ONE PERSON ACTING ALONE CAN'T WIN THIS!!
ALL RIGHT, STOP!! EVERYONE'S ALL OVER THE PLACE!!
KLAP KLAP


NICE PASS!!
キュッ
ZHUUM ZHUUM
キュッ
GO!!


ISN'T THERE ONE PERSON EXTRA?
YAAAHH
SHE'S JUST TRYING TO FIT IN.
YAAAHH


YEAH, REGARDING THAT... WE NEED TO TALK.
AH! TAE-SENSEI. WHAT POSITION DO I PLAY...?
TSUKAMOTO-SAN, COME OVER HERE.


ABOUT THAT... I ONLY FOUND OUT YESTERDAY, BUT IT TURNS OUT THAT YOU DON'T NEED SIX FOR BASKETBALL. YOU ONLY NEED FIVE.
SO UNTIL SOMEBODY DROPS OUT, I'VE GOT A SPECIAL REGIMEN THAT I'D LIKE YOU TO FOLLOW, TSUKAMOTO-SAN.
BY THE WAY, YOUR NICKNAME IS SUB
THANK GOODNESS! I NEVER GOT A NICKNAME, SO I WAS A LITTLE WORRIED...


I CAME TO CHEER YOU ON, BUT I GUESS I'M TOO LATE...
AH! NEE-SAN... IS YOUR PRACTICE OVER ALREADY?
WOBBLE WOBBLE
AS NOTED ON PREVIOUS PASS: THE JAPANESE FX IS MISSING FROM THE JAPANESE ART FILE

OKAY!! THAT ENDS OUR PRACTICE TIME!!
FIGHT, FIGHT!! FIGHT, FIGHT!!
ざっざっざっ
SHF SHF SFH
YOU KNOW! I'M THE SLOW STARTER OF THE GROUP.
IS THAT SO...? THEN HANG IN THERE, NEE-SAN.
NOT QUITE! BUT THEY HAVE A SPECIAL REGIMEN FOR THE ACE!!
WE SURE WILL! THAT'S OUR SUÔ-SAN FOR YOU!!
THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A HONEY LEMON DISH DURING CLUB PRACTICES!!
SAY, GUYS... I MADE SOMETHING THIS MORNING. WOULD EVERYBODY LIKE SOME?
I ATE IT ALL THE TIME DURING DOJO PRACTICE.
だだだ TMP TMP TMP
だだだ TMP TMP TMP
DIDN'T SHE?!
SUÔ MADE JUST WHAT I WANTED.
I'D RECOMMEND HER!
RECOMMEND HER FOR WHAT?
HERE, SEMPAI!!
MY HONEY LEMON DISH!!
I'VE GIVEN YOU AN EXTRA HELPING!!
O-OKAY...
ISN'T IT EXACTLY THE SAME THING?

W-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, YOU IDIOT?!
OH, YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT I'M SAYING!!
OH, ASÔ-CHAN! YOU CHARM ALL THE GIRLS!! ♡
SO WHICH ONE DO YOU LIKE BEST?
S-SAGANO... DON'T PICK ON HER TOO MUCH!
WHOA!! THAT'S TOO CUTE!!
SHAKE
SHAKE
COME ON, SATSUKI-CHAN! YOU HAVE TO GIVE HIM YOUR COME-HITHER LOOK!
TH-THANK YOU...
EH?
OH! THEN YOU AND I ARE THE SAME.
I WAS WRESTLING. YOU ARE IMPRESSIVE.
BY THE WAY, SATSUKI-CHAN, WHEN DID YOU START PLAYING BASKET-BALL?
I-I STARTED PLAYING ABOUT THE TIME I WAS FIVE YEARS OLD...
AH... O-OKAY...
WAIT UP, LALA-SAN...
NEXT, WE DO FREE THROWS.
RIGHT! ICHI-JÔ!!

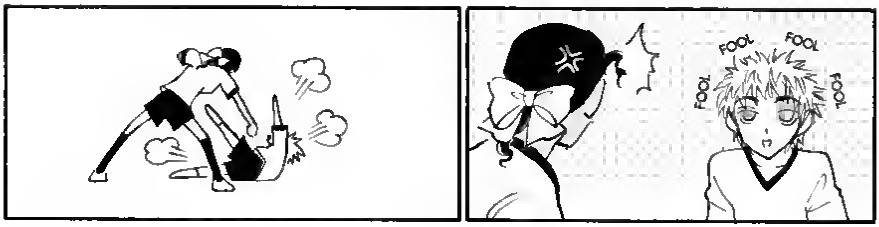
SST
HM?
L-LALA-SAN... CALM DOWN...
HRM!! IT WILL NOT GO IN!!
GROWL!!
KANK
WOW!!
KA-FUMPH
LIKE THIS?
SHMM
THAT'S RIGHT. YOUR LEFT HAND ACTS AS SUPPORT.
YOU'RE TOO TENSE RIGHT HERE.
U-UM... DE NADA!!
GRACIAS, SATSUKI!!
SE PASÓ!!
YEAH, LALA-SEMPAI! YOU'RE VERY GOOD!!
YOU SHOT IT ALL THE WAY TO THE HOOP WITH JUST ONE HAND. THAT'S AMAZING!
OHH!! IT WENT IN!!
OF COURSE IT IS OKAY!! IS THAT NOT RIGHT, ICHI-JÔ?
RIGHT!! SATSUKI IS WITH US!!
WE HAVE A FREE-THROW CONTEST!!
Y-YEAH! LET'S ALL GIVE IT A TRY!
EH...? ARE YOU SURE IT'S OKAY?

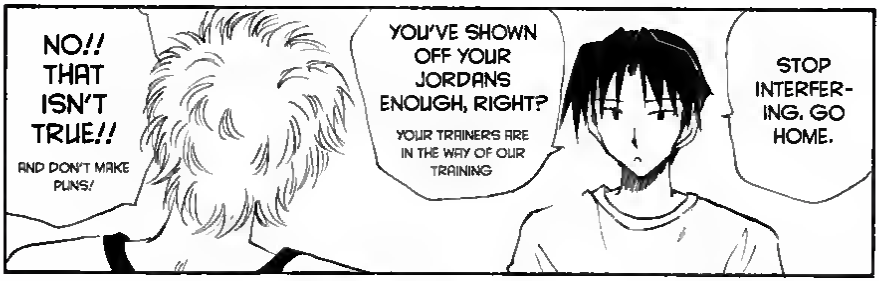
SHE'S ALREADY GOOD IN ONE-ON-ONE PRACTICE. SUÔ IMPROVES FAST.
YES. I'D EXPECT THAT.
FROM MY COACHING
KYUUM
キュ
IS THAT SAGANO? SHE'S EXPERIENCED ENOUGH..
GAKK
WHA—?!
GOOD!! NOW, GO RIGHT!!
NO, I CAN'T MOVE!! TSK! I CAN'T FIND THE STRENGTH TO BREAK THROUGH...
DAMMIT!! I CAN'T GET AROUND HER!! WHAT IS THIS PRESSURE?! SHE'S GOOD!!
WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU FINISHED ALREADY?
THAT ISN'T WHAT I EXPECTED

GRNK
OWW!!
WHO DID THAT?
NO! RIGHT NOW, CALL ME "COACH." LET'S GO ONE MORE TIME!!
IF YOU DON'T COME TO ME, YOUR COACH WILL COME TO YOU
I-IMADORI!!
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
JUST LOOK AT MY BEAUTIFUL SHOT!!
I MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT MY LEVEL IS EVEN ABOVE JORDANS!!
SEE?
AH, YOU MEAN AIR-JORDANS
WHAT DO YOU THINK, IDIOT? I'M THE COACH, OBVIOUSLY!!
OKAY... WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING HERE?

Asô: Already Cold, to Imadori.

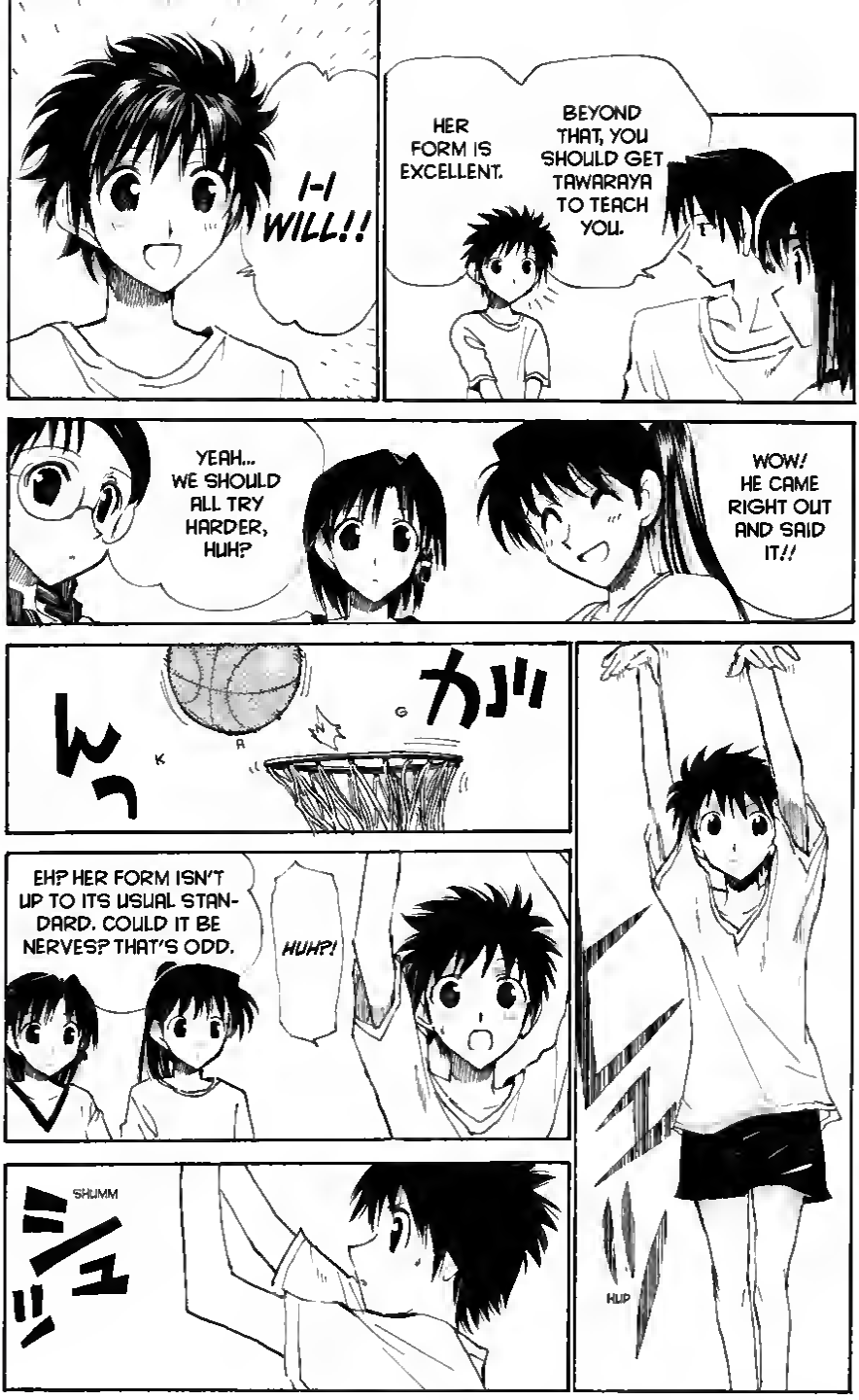
A "Hah" of Frustration.


FOOL
FOOL
FOOL
FOOL


NO!! THAT ISN'T TRUE!!
AND DON'T MAKE PUNS!
YOU'VE SHOWN OFF YOUR JORDANS ENOUGH, RIGHT?
YOUR TRAINERS ARE IN THE WAY OF OUR TRAINING
STOP INTERFERING. GO HOME.

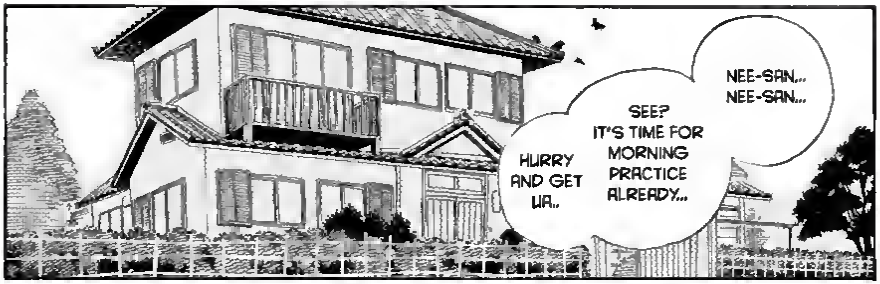
.....o
BUT, UM... MAYBE YOU COULD HELP AT SOME OTHER TIME...
I-IMADORI-SAN... I'M HAPPY THAT YOU WANT TO HELP OUT...
RIGHT, ICHI-SAN?!
I EVEN REMEMBER YOUR NICKNAME WITH NO PROBLEM!

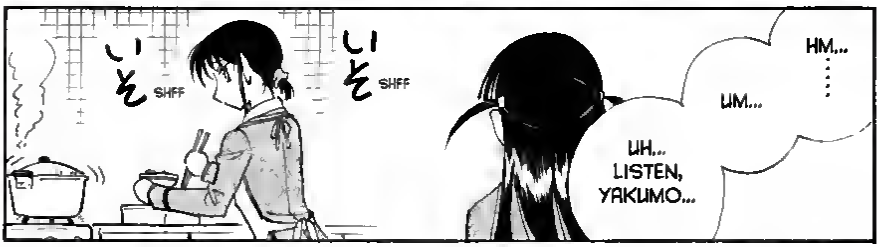
BRING YOUR ARMS CLOSER TO YOUR BODY.
AND RELAX A LITTLE MORE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE RIGHT POSITION IS. LIKE THIS?
I KNOW YOU SAID MY ARM POSITION WAS WRONG, BUT...

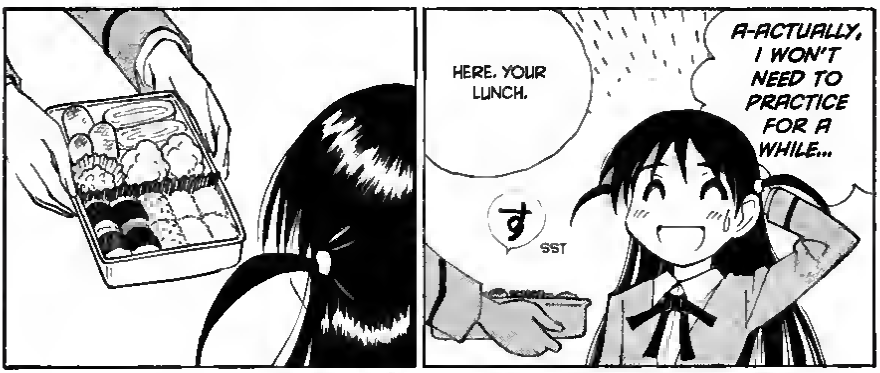

I-I WILL!!
HER FORM IS EXCELLENT.
BEYOND THAT, YOU SHOULD GET TAWARAYA TO TEACH YOU.
YEAH... WE SHOULD ALL TRY HARDER, HUH?
WOW! HE CAME RIGHT OUT AND SAID IT!!
EH? HER FORM ISN'T UP TO ITS USUAL STANDARD. COULD IT BE NERVES? THAT'S ODD.
HUH?!
SHUMM
KUP

WHY? WHY?!
カリ
NG
ッン
KA
KANG KANG
カッ カッ ッン
カッ カッ ッン
KANG KANG
L-LALA-SAN... I DON'T THINK THE NBA...
DO NOT GIVE UP, SATSUKI!! IF YOU GIVE UP, THEN THE NBA WILL REMAIN ONLY A DREAM FOREVER!!
ずーん..
GLOOM
12
GO... ME...
KREE
キィ:
KREE
キィ:
GO TEAM!

127 · · · · · · · · · Fin

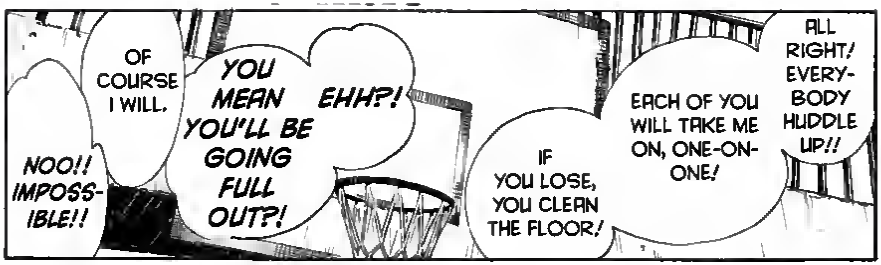

NEE-SAN... NEE-SAN...
SEE? IT'S TIME FOR MORNING PRACTICE ALREADY...
HURRY AND GET UP..


いそ SHFF
いそ SHFF
HM... ……
UM...
UH... LISTEN, YAKUMO...


HERE. YOUR LUNCH.
す SST
A-ACTUALLY, I WON'T NEED TO PRACTICE FOR A WHILE...

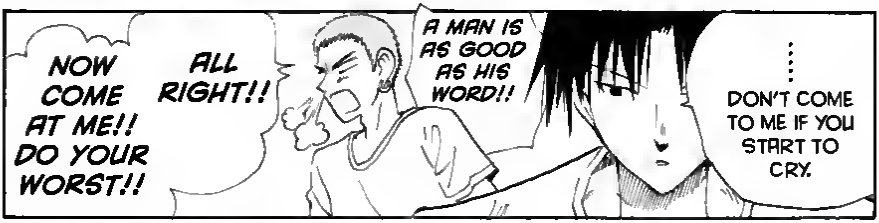
EVERY-BODY SEEMS TO BE SO COM-MITTED.
IT SEEMS LIKE A LONG TIME SINCE THAT'S HAPPENED.
IT'S TOO BAD THAT THIS IS THE ONLY HELP I CAN OFFER...
... BUT I'D REALLY LIKE TO CHEER YOU ON, NEE-SAN...
BUT I WONDER IF YOU AREN'T WORK-ING TOO HARD AT THIS...

KREE
キィ…
KREE
キィ…
…
TSUKAMOTO-SAN DIDN'T COME TODAY, EITHER. I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG...
SHE DIDN'T COME TO PRACTICE YESTERDAY, EITHER, HUH?
HMM... NOT A MORNING PERSON? SLEEPING IN, MAYBE?
HAHH
HAHH
FORGIVE ME, TSUKAMOTO-SAN... I'M SORRY TO HAVE FORCED SUCH A PAINFUL DUTY ONTO YOU...
BUT IN JUST A LITTLE WHILE... JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE TIME... SOMEONE WILL GET SICK OF THIS, AND THEN YOU'LL BE... WHAT DID I CALL YOU? OH, YEAH, OUR ACE STRIKER!!


ALL RIGHT! EVERY-BODY HUDDLE UP!!
EACH OF YOU WILL TAKE ME ON, ONE-ON-ONE!
IF YOU LOSE, YOU CLEAN THE FLOOR!
EHH?!
YOU MEAN YOU'LL BE GOING FULL OUT?!
OF COURSE I WILL.
NOO!! IMPOSS-IBLE!!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! THE WOMEN ARE TRYING THEIR BEST, AND I HAVE TO PITCH IN TO HELP!!
SUGA?! YOU HATE PLAYING DEFENSE!!
YOU SAID YOU CAN'T STAND THE PAIN.
YOU RAT!! YOU INTEND TO MONOPOLIZE THIS WHOLE THING, DON'T YOU?!
YOU EXPRESSION-LESS JERK!!

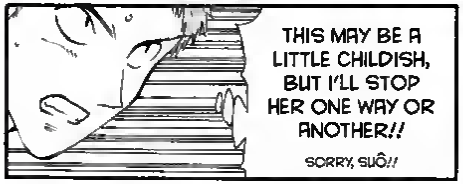
ME! ME! ME! ME! THEY'LL TAKE ON ME!!
HOLD IT! HOLD IT! HOLD IT!! HOLD ON A SECOND!!


NOW COME AT ME!! DO YOUR WORST!!
ALL RIGHT!!
A MAN IS AS GOOD AS HIS WORD!!
DON'T COME TO ME IF YOU START TO CRY.

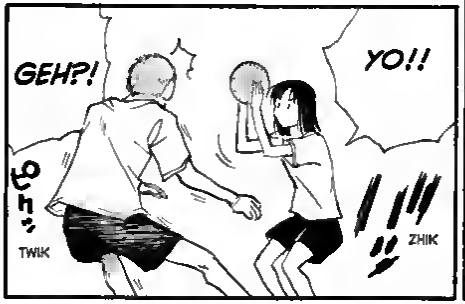
THEN YOU, ICHI-SAN!!
HOOO!! YOU DON'T HAVE THE GUTS, HUH?!
I'LL PASS.
I GET THE FEELING YOU'D RUIN MY RHYTHM.
YES, COME AT ME, SA-GANO!!

HYUUM
HUH?!
BATCH
S-SORRY GIRLS!!
I-I GUESS I UNDERESTIMATED YOU A LITTLE. THIS TIME I'M GOING ALL OUT...
THAT GIRL'S ABILITY TO SEE MOVING OBJECTS IS AMAZING!
NO! THAT WAS NOTHING SPECIAL!
PRIP
NICE GOING, ICHIJÔ!!
WHOA!!
TMP TMP
KYUUM
キュッ

KYUUM
SHE'S FAST!!
OR MAYBE JUST TOO SMALL!!

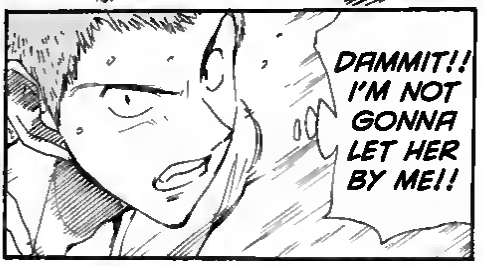

THIS MAY BE A LITTLE CHILDISH, BUT I'LL STOP HER ONE WAY OR ANOTHER!!
SORRY, SUÔ!!

WHOOSH


GEH?!
YO!!
TWIK
ZHIK

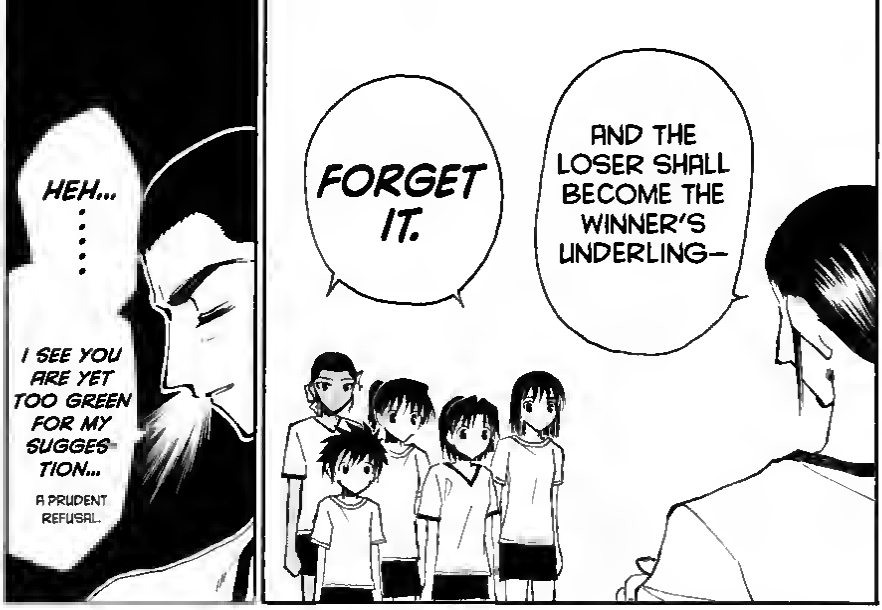
THMP
VSSH
EH?!

GLIK
DMP

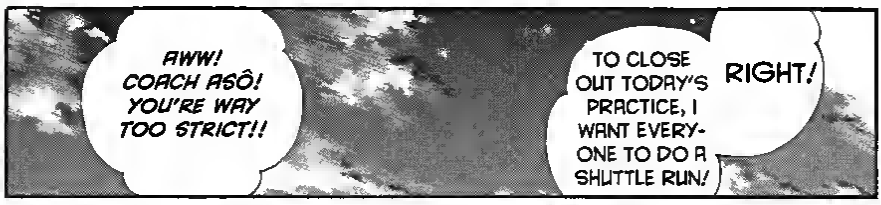

DAMMIT!! I'M NOT GONNA LET HER BY ME!!

Lala Gonzales: Originally Gori.

THEY HAVE A LOT OF POTENTIAL.
THEY SHOULD BE MORE THAN JUST A ONE-TOURNAMENT TEAM
OR I SHOULD ASK WHY YOU'RE ALWAYS HERE.
HELP OUT A LITTLE!
HM? US?
TÔGÔ, HARRY, WHAT DO YOU GUYS THINK?
THANKS TO YOU, A BASKETBALL FIRE IN MY SOUL THAT I THOUGHT I HAD LEFT BEHIND IN AMERICA HAS BEEN REKINDLED.
I THINK, "JESUS! A FRIGHTENING TEAM HAS BEEN BORN THIS DAY."
WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE ON ME, TÔGÔ MASAKAZU, THE ONE THEY USED TO CALL THE TEXAS BIG BULL?!
YOU HAVEN'T HAD ENOUGH YET, CORRECT?
WHAT DO YOU THINK, LADIES?


HEH...
I SEE YOU ARE YET TOO GREEN FOR MY SUGGESTION...
A PRUDENT REFUSAL.
FORGET IT.
AND THE LOSER SHALL BECOME THE WINNER'S UNDERLING—

YES...!
I DO BEST I CAN.
ADIOS!
I SHALL COOL MY SEETHING BLOOD. HARRY, I LEAVE YOU TO TEND TO LALA'S CARE.


AWW! COACH ASÔ! YOU'RE WAY TOO STRICT!!
TO CLOSE OUT TODAY'S PRACTICE, I WANT EVERYONE TO DO A SHUTTLE RUN!
RIGHT!

AND IF YOU ASK WHY, IT'S BECAUSE OUR COACH MADE US FEEL LIKE WE CAN!!
WE CAN DO THIS... TOGETHER WE CAN DO THIS...

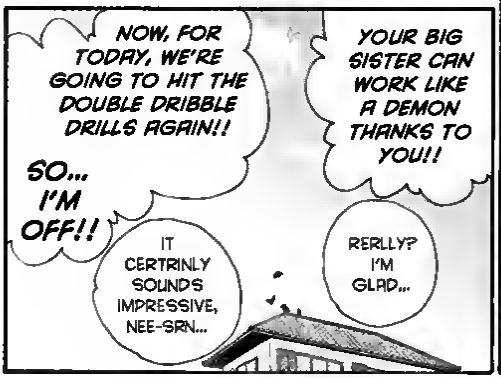
THE NEXT DAY.
NEE-SAN, WAKE UP..
IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR YOUR MORNING PRACTICE!

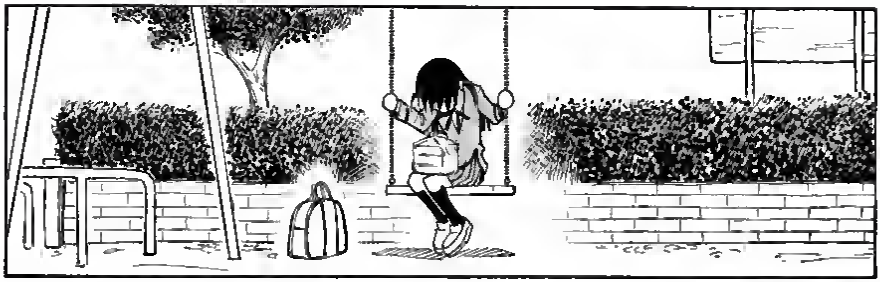
ZWIMM
HERE, NEE-SAN!

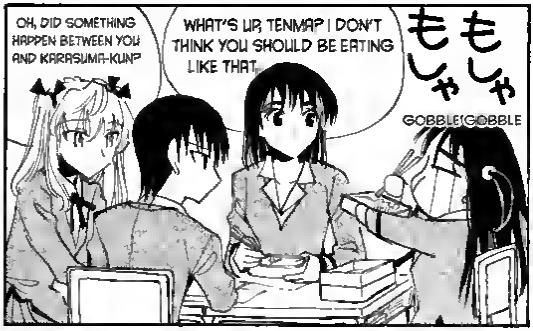
UM... YAKUMO...
IT'S ABOUT BASKET-BALL PRACTICE...
THERE'S SOME-THING I HAVE TO TELL YOU...
SHF SHF

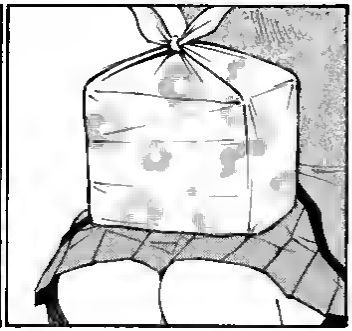
NOT AT ALL!! ONCE PRACTICE IS OVER, EVERYBODY GETS SO HUNGRY!!
AM I OVERSTEP-PING MY BOUNDS...?

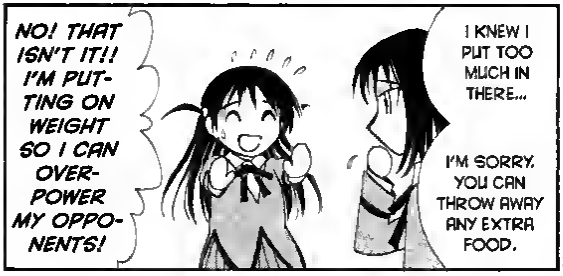
I THOUGHT THAT YOU COULD SHARE IT WITH THE TERM...
IT ISN'T MUCH, BUT...


NOW, FOR TODAY, WE'RE GOING TO HIT THE DOUBLE DRIBBLE DRILLS AGAIN!!
SO... I'M OFF!!
YOUR BIG SISTER CAN WORK LIKE A DEMON THANKS TO YOU!!
IT CERTRINLY SOUNDS IMPRESSIVE, NEE-SAN...
REALLY? I'M GLAD...




OH, DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU AND KARASUMA-KUN?
WHAT'S UP, TENMA? I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD BE EATING LIKE THAT.
もしゃもしゃ
GOBBLE!GOBBLE

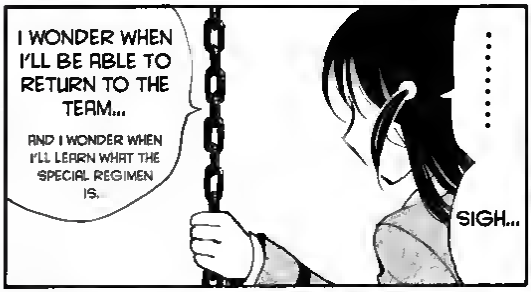


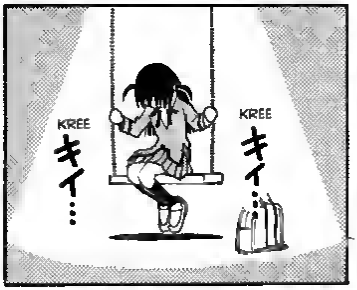

NO! THAT ISN'T IT!! I'M PUT-TING ON WEIGHT SO I CAN OVER-POWER MY OPPO-NENTS!
I KNEW I PUT TOO MUCH IN THERE...
I'M SORRY. YOU CAN THROW AWAY ANY EXTRA FOOD.

HM? NEE-SAN...
HAVE YOU GAINED WEIGHT...?

THE OTHERS JUST CAN'T PRACTICE WHEN I'M NOT THERE!
OF COURSE I AM!!
SO WE'LL EAT OUR FILL!!

BUT I'M SUR-PRISED AT HOW YOU'RE STICKING TO THIS.
YOU'RE REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT IT, AREN'T YOU, NEE-SAN...?
THANK GOOD-NESS.


I WONDER WHEN I'LL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO THE TEAM...
AND I WONDER WHEN I'LL LEARN WHAT THE SPECIAL REGIMEN IS.
.....
SIGH...

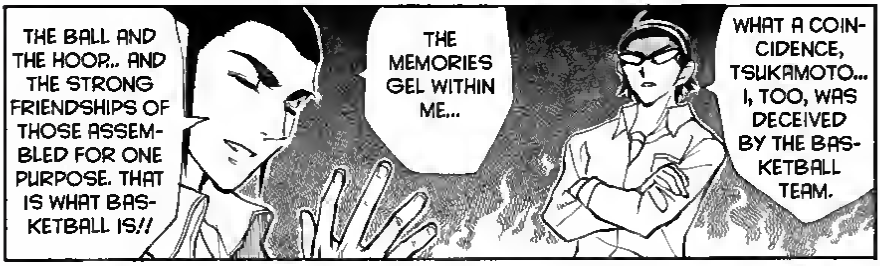

KREE
キィ…
KREE
キィ…

EH?
YOUNG LADY, WOULD YOU MIND SHARING SOME OF THAT LOVINGLY MADE BENTO WITH ME?

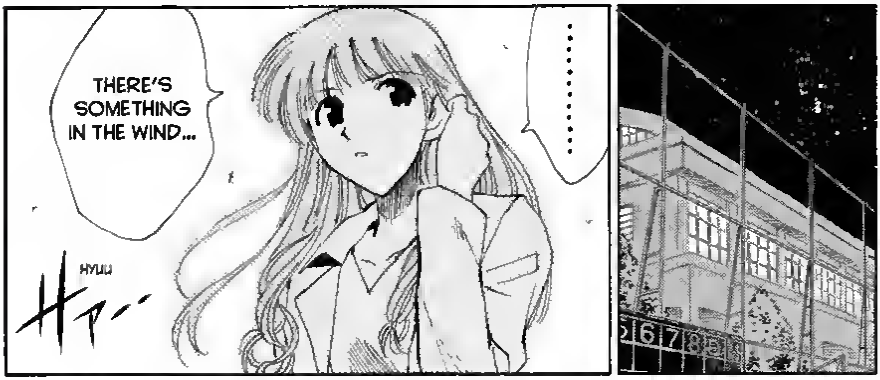
EH... ?!
W-WHY ARE YOU ALL HERE?!

YOU AREN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS BEEN INSULTED.
TAKE A LOOK AROUND YOU!
TÔGÔ-KUN!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

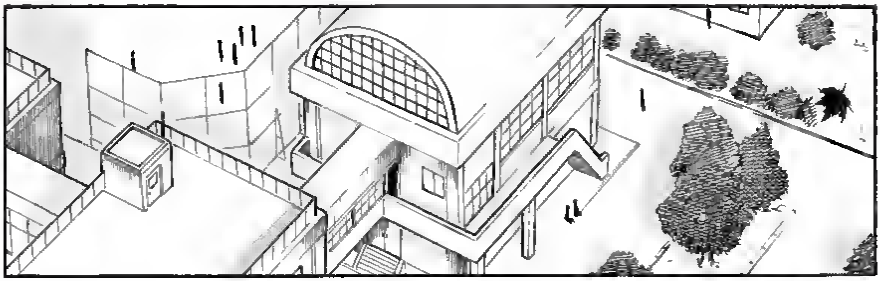
AND HARIMA-KUN, TOO!!
WHEN DID YOU ALL GET HERE?!
SHK
IMADORI-KUN!!

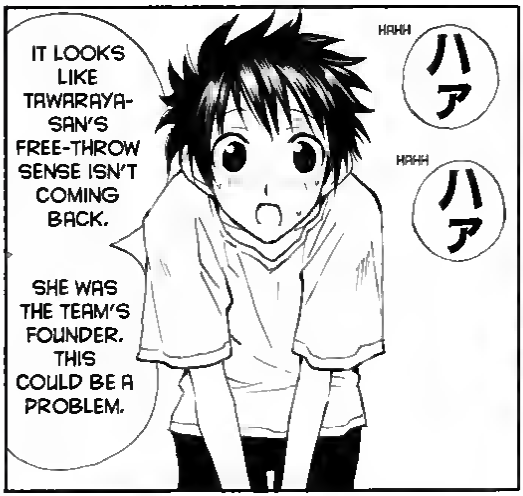

THE BALL AND THE HOOP... AND THE STRONG FRIENDSHIPS OF THOSE ASSEMBLED FOR ONE PURPOSE. THAT IS WHAT BASKETBALL IS!!
THE MEMORIES GEL WITHIN ME...
WHAT A COINCIDENCE, TSUKAMOTO... I, TOO, WAS DECEIVED BY THE BASKETBALL TEAM.

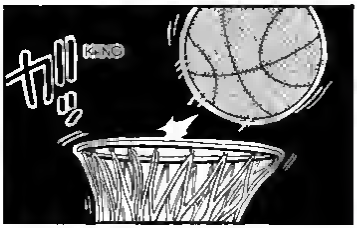
YES!! FROM TODAY, OUR JOURNEY OF TRAINING BEGINS!!
I WANT TO SHOW THOSE GUYS MY SKILLS!
BEFORE WE KNEW IT, WE WERE ALL BASKETBALL OUTLAWS!
ALL OF US...

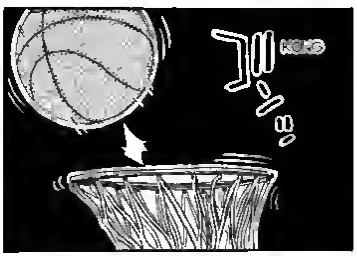

THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE WIND...
.....
HYUU
Hア--

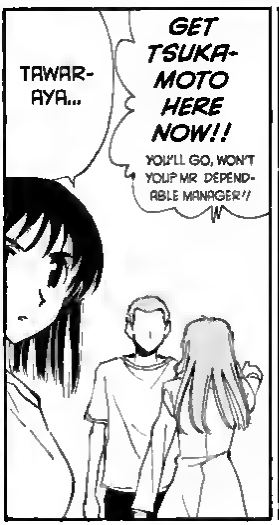
128 · · · · · · · · Fin



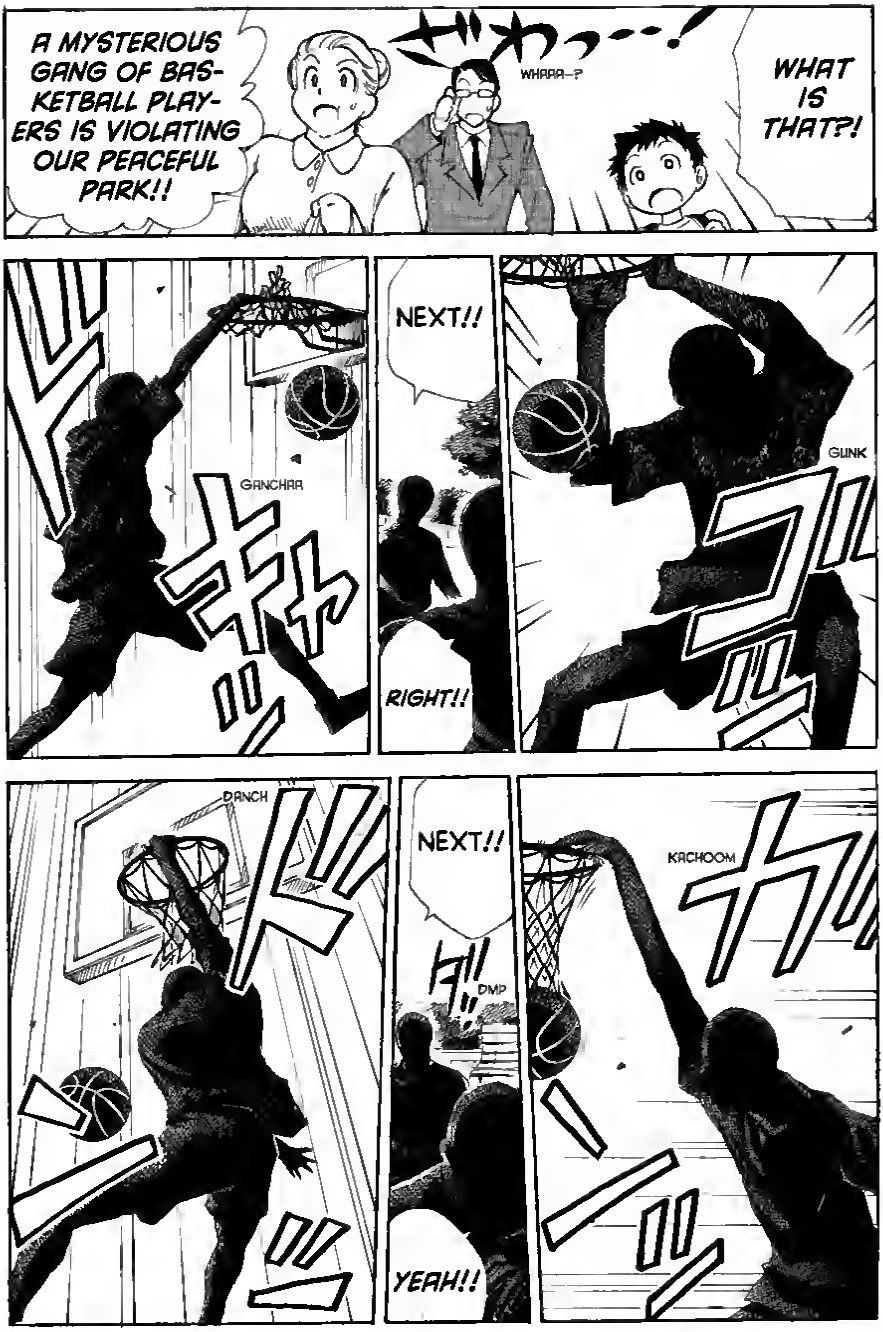








#129 SMALL SOLDIERS

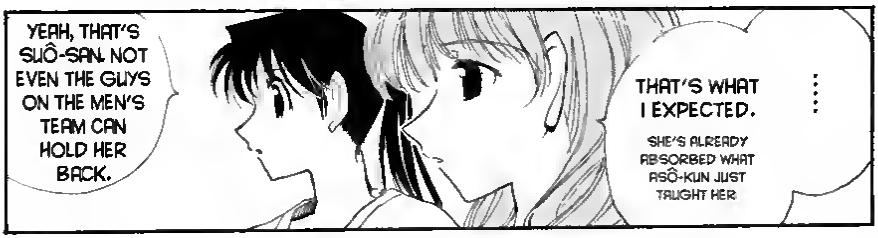

A MYSTERIOUS GANG OF BASKETBALL PLAYERS IS VIOLATING OUR PEACEFUL PARK!!
WHAAA—?
WHAT IS THAT?!
GANCHAA
NEXT!!
RIGHT!!
GUNK
DANCH
NEXT!!
DMP
YEAH!!
KACHOOM

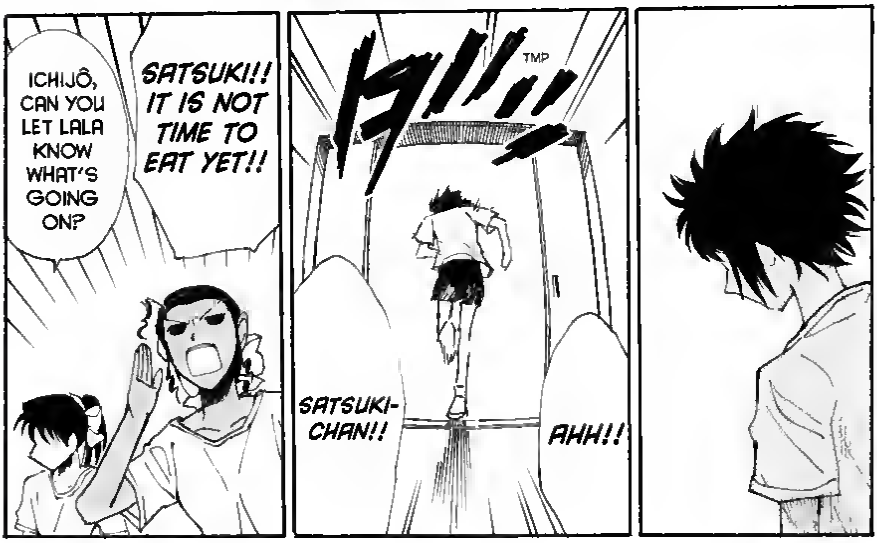
THEY HAVE MORE TEAM SPIRIT THAN I EXPECTED!!
THEY HELPED HER!!
FWUMP
TMP TMP TMP
THE MORE TIMES SHE TRIES, THE MORE HER SWING JUST FALLS APART.
HAHH
HAHH
HAHH
SHE'S IN A WORSE ROOKIE SLUMP THAT I IMAGINED.
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THAT! YOU HAVE TO DO SOMETHING.
BUT SHE'S IN A DELICATE STATE RIGHT NOW...
AND WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "SWING"...
HEY, ASÔ-KUN!
GET OUT THERE AND FIX HER!!

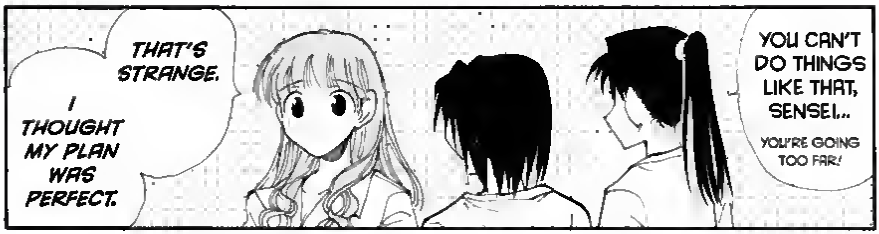
O-OKAY...
YOU'RE GOING TO CHANGE THE ANGLE OF BOTH YOUR ARMS AT THE SAME TIME TO GET THE FEEL BACK.
THAT'S RIGHT. NOW CHANGE IT A LITTLE AND TAKE THE SHOT.
THAT'S GOOD.
.....
KRCHKKL...
HEY!! YOU HAVE TO RELAX YOUR SHOULDERS MORE!
Y-YEAH...
THIS IS ONLY GOING TO MAKE THINGS WORSE.
PHEW!! HE'S ASKING THE IMPOSSIBLE.
THE THING ABOUT ASÔ AND TAWARAYA IS...
UM... TAE-CHAN...
I KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT IT.
EH...?

WHAT I'M WORKING HERE IS SHOCK THERAPY.
...BUT WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE, I'VE GOT IT ALL UNDER CONTROL.
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT INJURIES OR ILLNESSES...
NO... I'VE NEVER BEEN A GOOD TEACHER...
I'M JUST NO USE TO ANYBODY.
I'M SORRY...
AH... THEY'VE STOPPED PRACTIC-ING.
CAN SOME-THING LIKE THAT ACTUALLY WORK?
YAAY !!
DMP
YAAAH!
!
HUH?
H-HEY...
NO!! IT ISN'T YOUR FAULT, ASÔ-SEMPAI!!
I'M REALLY... I'M REALLY SORRY!! I'M JUST HOPE-LESS!!

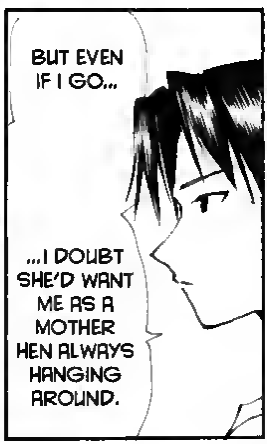
KYUUM
S-SUÔ-SAN IS AMAZING!!
WOW...
SHE'S JUST BUILT DIFFERENTLY FROM THE REST OF US!!


YEAH, THAT'S SUÔ-SAN. NOT EVEN THE GUYS ON THE MEN'S TEAM CAN HOLD HER BACK.
THAT'S WHAT I EXPECTED.
.....
SHE'S ALREADY ABSORBED WHAT ASÔ-KUN JUST TAUGHT HER

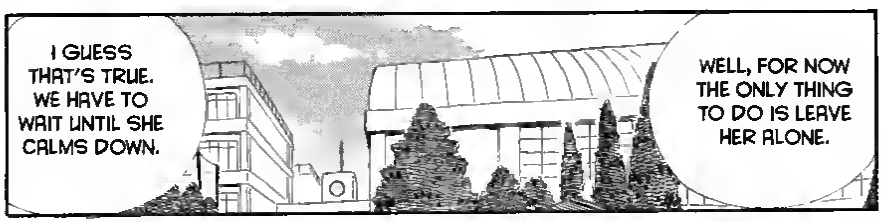

ICHIJÔ, CAN YOU LET LALA KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON?
SATSUKI!! IT IS NOT TIME TO EAT YET!!
TMP
SATSUKI-CHAN!!
AHH!!

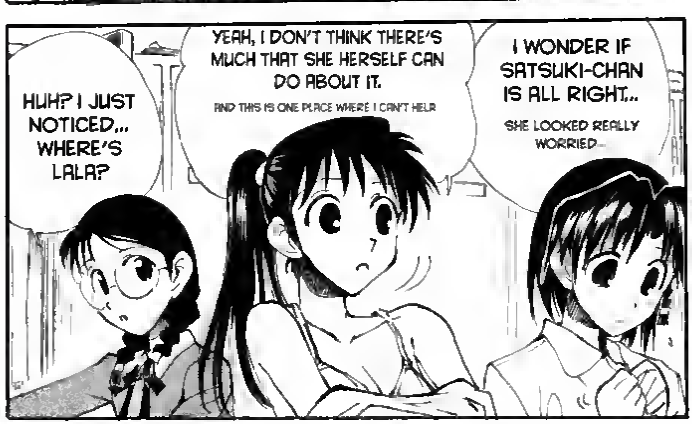

THAT'S STRANGE.
I THOUGHT MY PLAN WAS PERFECT.
YOU CAN'T DO THINGS LIKE THAT, SENSEI...
YOU'RE GOING TOO FAR!

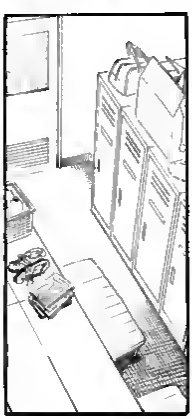
IS HE DIM OR SOME-THING?
YOU GO INSTEAD, SUÔ.


BUT EVEN IF I GO...
...I DOUBT SHE'D WANT ME AS A MOTHER HEN ALWAYS HANGING AROUND.

.....
HM?
HEY, ASÔ. YOU'D BETTER GO AFTER HER.


I GUESS THAT'S TRUE. WE HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL SHE CALMS DOWN.
WELL, FOR NOW THE ONLY THING TO DO IS LEAVE HER ALONE.


HUH? I JUST NOTICED... WHERE'S LALA?
YEAH, I DON'T THINK THERE'S MUCH THAT SHE HERSELF CAN DO ABOUT IT.
AND THIS IS ONE PLACE WHERE I CAN'T HELP.
I WONDER IF SATSUKI-CHAN IS ALL RIGHT...
SHE LOOKED REALLY WORRIED...



EAT!!
EH?
SST
LALA-SEMPAI...
THIS IS MY LUNCH. IT IS VERY GOOD.
IS IT YOUR PAPA BACK IN THE HOME-LAND?
THEN WHAT IS IT?
WHAT IS THAT? WAS I WRONG?
AH... UM... IT ISN'T THAT I'M HUNGRY...
DOES YOUR LIFE DEPEND ON IT?
MORE THAN FOOD? MORE THAN PAPA? MORE IMPOR-TANT?
IT'S SOMETHING THAT'S FAR... FAR MORE IMPORTANT TO ME RIGHT NOW THAN THAT...
NO...
MY FAMILY AND I LIVE HERE TOGETHER

……
……
WHATEVER I CAN DO, I WILL DO FOR YOU!!
THEN TELL ME WHAT IT IS!!
……
……
MAYBE I'LL GO...
TMP
TMP

AH! TAWARAYA? UH... THIS IS ASŌ...
HELLO?
AFTER SCHOOL...
I'VE GOT SOMETHING I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.
I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD COME TO THE GYM RIGHT NOW.
EH?
CAN YOU HEAR ME?
!!
AND IT ISN'T GOOD FOR EITHER OF US TO LEAVE THINGS UNCERTAIN LIKE THEY HAVE BEEN.
ACTUALLY...
...I'VE BEEN WORRYING A BIT MYSELF.
I'M SORRY FOR CALLING YOU HERE OUT OF THE BLUE, TAWARAYA.
UH... LISTEN...
I-IT'S NO PROBLEM...

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ME?
LOOK...
I WANT AN HONEST ANSWER FROM YOU.
NO!! IT ISN'T THAT!!
LOOK, IF I DON'T WORK FOR YOU, IT'S OKAY...
EHH?!
EH...? YOU MEAN...
ARE YOU ASKING... EHH...?!
I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU, SEMPAI!!
I'M...
I'M...
EH...?

Ever Since Tenma Started Basketball, the Tsukamoto Food Budget Has Skyrocketed.

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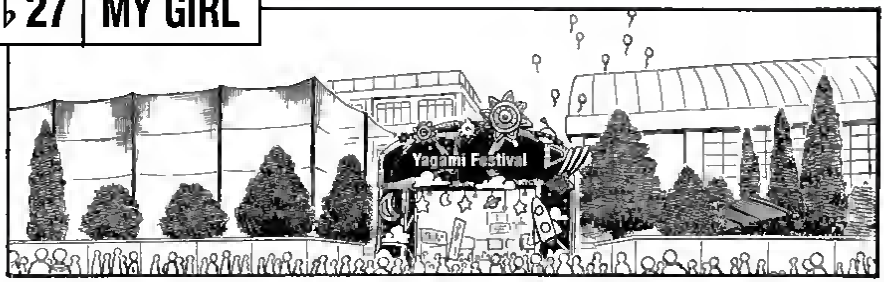
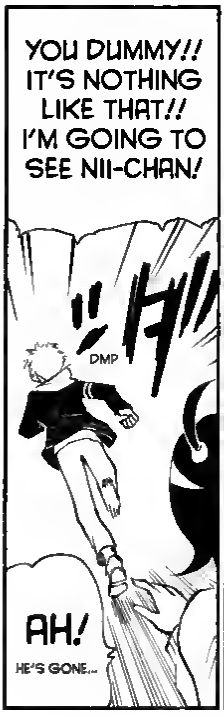
♭27 MY GIRL


Yagami Festival

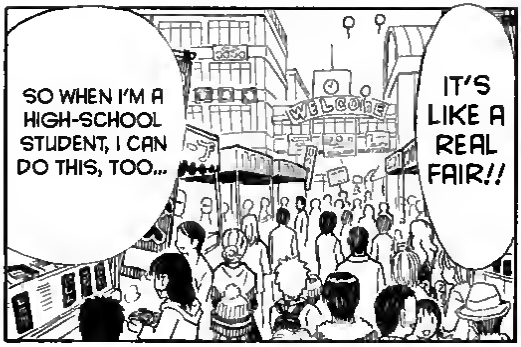
B-BUT MY BROTHER'S CLASS IS IN THIS DIRECTION.
I'M NOT REALLY FOLLOWING YOU ANYWHERE...
HEY, MIO!! QUIT FOLLOW-ING ME AROUND!!

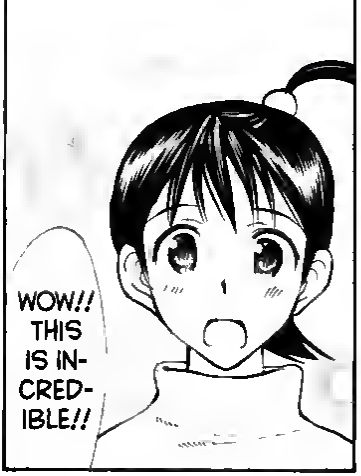

YOU DUMMY!! IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT!! I'M GOING TO SEE NII-CHAN!
DMP
AH!
HE'S GONE...

YOU MENTIONED IT WHEN YOU WERE TALKING TO THE OTHER BOYS.
I HAPPENED TO OVERHEAR.
"THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON I RESPECT, AND THAT'S TSUKAMOTO, A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT AT YAGAMI HIGH SCHOOL." THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID!

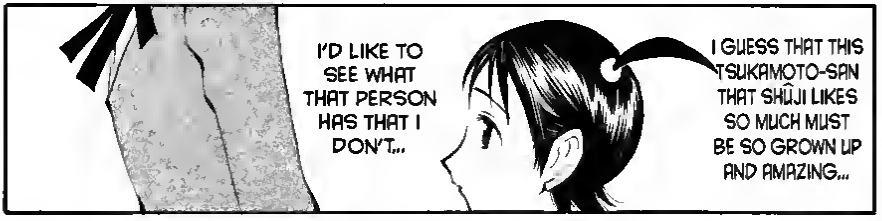
TH-THAT ISN'T IT!!
AND WHAT ABOUT YOU, SHŪJI-KUN? WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE ALONE SO MUCH?

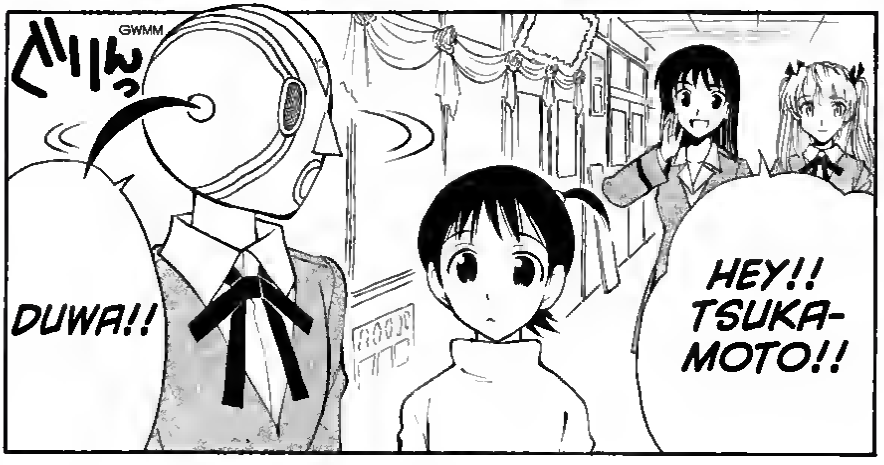
YOU'RE GOING TO MEET THAT "TSUKAMOTO-SAN," AREN'T YOU?
I-I KNOW!
W-WHERE'D YOU HEAR ABOUT THAT?!


WELCOME
SO WHEN I'M A HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENT, I CAN DO THIS, TOO...
IT'S LIKE A REAL FAIR!!


WOW!! THIS IS IN-CRED-IBLE!!

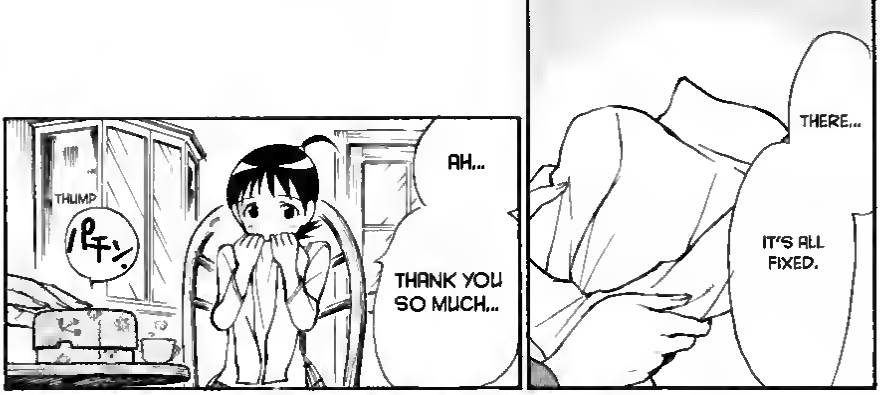
BUT IT SEEMS LIKE A LONG TIME OFF...
MAYBE SOMEDAY I'LL BE KIND OF LIKE THIS...
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS...


I'D LIKE TO SEE WHAT THAT PERSON HAS THAT I DON'T...
I GUESS THAT THIS TSUKAMOTO-SAN THAT SHŪJI LIKES SO MUCH MUST BE SO GROWN UP AND AMAZING...

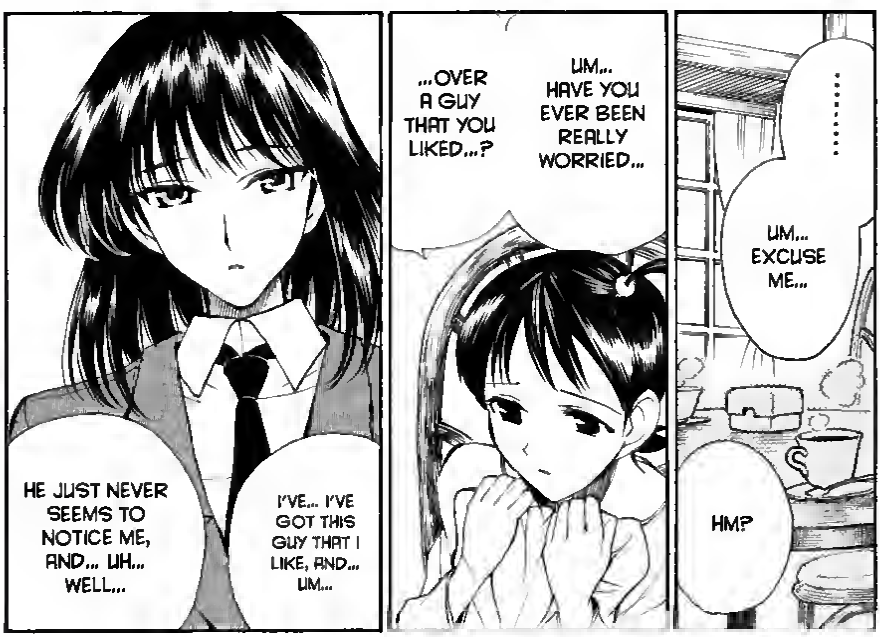

GWMM
DUWA!!
HEY!! TSUKA-MOTO!!

EHHHH?!
EHHHH?!
*TRANSLATED FROM THE DUWA LANGUAGE
DUWA, DUWA!!
(*I HEAR THE TAKOYAKI THAT CLASS 1-E MAKES IS PARTICULARLY DELICIOUS.*)
LET'S GO GRAB SOME LUNCH.
TH-THAT IS THE TSUKAMOTO-SAN THAT SHŪJI-KUN LIKES SO MUCH?!
WHUMP BUMP
どだだ
WA— WA— KYAAAH!!
ZLIP
I'M JUST GOING TO GO HOME...
SKEEK SKEEK
THAT'S NO FAIR!!
I COULD NEVER TRY TO BECOME SOME-ONE LIKE THAT!!
SOBB
しょぼん...
I WAS A FOOL FOR EVEN MAKING THE TRIP TO THIS STUPID HIGH SCHOOL...
AWW!! TODAY IS THE WORST DAY OF MY LIFE...!!
AH! IT'S TORN!! AND MOM JUST BOUGHT IT FOR ME!!
THAT HURTS!!

ARE YOU LOST, LITTLE GIRL?
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
U-UM...
WHAT'S YOUR ADDRESS? WHAT ARE YOUR PARENTS' NAMES?
I-I'M...
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY PRIORS, DO YOU?!
HOW'M I SUPPOSED TO FIND OUT WITH YOU SO SILENT?!
H-HE'S GOING TO EAT ME!!
DETECTIVE... LET'S ALLOW THE JUVENILE DIVISION TO DO ITS JOB.
YOU'RE ON PATROL, AND THAT'S WHERE YOUR DUTY LIES...
HM... I KNOW, BUT...
I STILL HAVE QUESTIONS..
AH!! I SEE THE SHADOW OF SOMEONE SUSPICIOUS OVER THERE...
WHAAAT?! HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!!


THUMP
ポチン
AH...
THANK YOU SO MUCH...
THERE...
IT'S ALL FIXED.

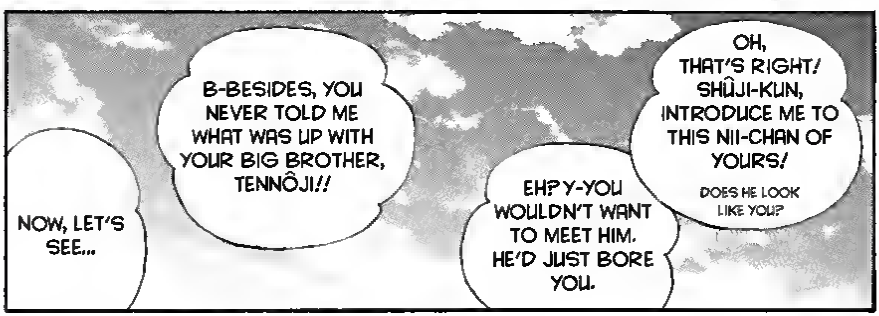
IF I WAS THIS BEAUTIFUL, THEN EVEN SHÛJI-KUN WOULD...
WOW!! SHE'S SO BEAUTIFUL!!


HE JUST NEVER SEEMS TO NOTICE ME, AND... UH... WELL...
I'VE... I'VE GOT THIS GUY THAT I LIKE, AND... UM...
...OVER A GUY THAT YOU LIKED...?
UM... HAVE YOU EVER BEEN REALLY WORRIED...
.....
UM... EXCUSE ME...
HM?

WHAT AM I SAYING...?!
SST
!
EH?
LOOK. YOU HAVE TO WIPE THOSE TEARS AWAY.
I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT, BUT...
...I THINK YOUR TEARS WOULDN'T MAKE THE BOY HAPPY.
YOU SEE, I HAVEN'T FOUND A MAN THAT I LIKE YET...
...IF I DO FIND HIM...
BUT SOME-DAY...
...I THINK I'D WANT HIM TO ALWAYS SEE A SMILE ON MY FACE...

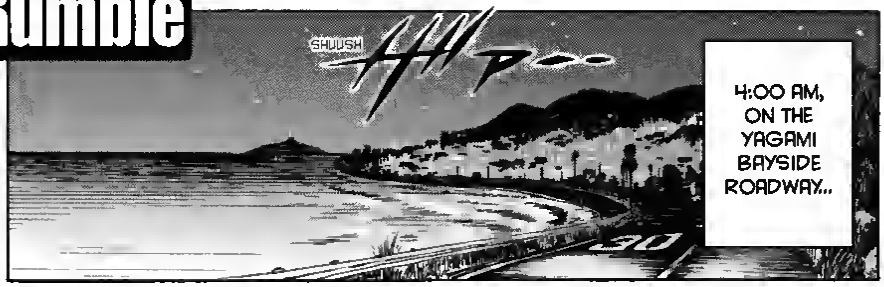
THAT'S THE KIND OF GROWNUP I'M GOING TO BE!!
I'VE MADE UP MY MIND!!
SHE'S WONDERFUL...
EH?
GRMP
LOOK HOW LATE IT IS!! I'LL BET SHÛJI-KUN HAS ALREADY GONE HOME...
TMP TMP TMP
たただっ
S-SHÛJI-KUN!!
W-WHAT'S THE MATTER?
HAHH
ハア
HAHH
ハア
I...FINALLY FOUND YOU...
YOU BIG DUMMY!! WHERE DID YOU GET OFF TO?!
DON'T GIVE ME "WHAT'S THE MATTER"!!

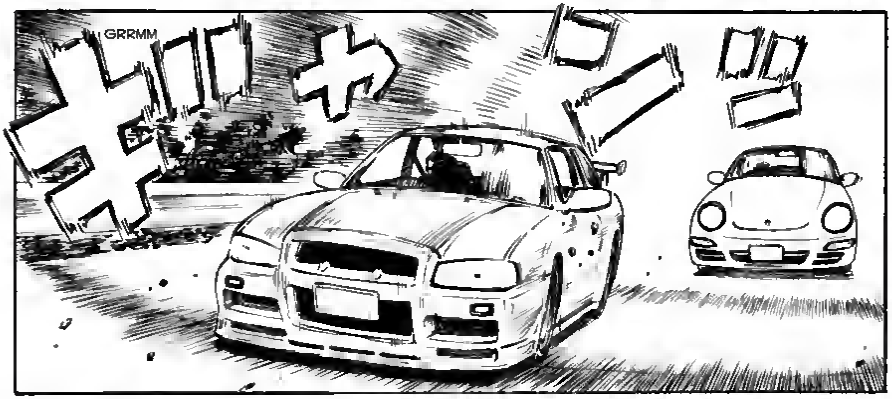
OKAY!!
COME ON. LET'S GO HOME!!
YOU WERE THAT WORRIED ABOUT ME?
HUH?! WHAT ARE YOU SAY-ING?!
IF YOU WERE KIDNAPPED OR SOMETHING, HOW COULD I SLEEP AT NIGHT?


NOW, LET'S SEE...
B-BESIDES, YOU NEVER TOLD ME WHAT WAS UP WITH YOUR BIG BROTHER, TENNÔJI!!
EH? Y-YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO MEET HIM. HE'D JUST BORE YOU.
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! SHÛJI-KUN, INTRODUCE ME TO THIS NII-CHAN OF YOURS!
DOES HE LOOK LIKE YOU?

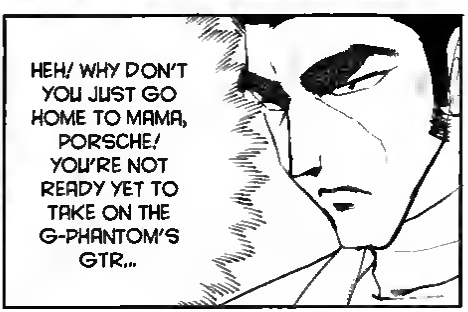
YOU'RE GOING TO WORK OFF YOUR CAFÉ DEBTS!
YOU WERE NRIVE TO WALK INTO OUR CAFE WITHOUT ANY MONEY
BIG BROTHER
NII-SAN
Café Tea Club
Delicious tea and the cutest waitresses await you!!
YES, MA'AM!!
DRMMIT, WHY DO THESE THINGS HAPPEN TO ME?

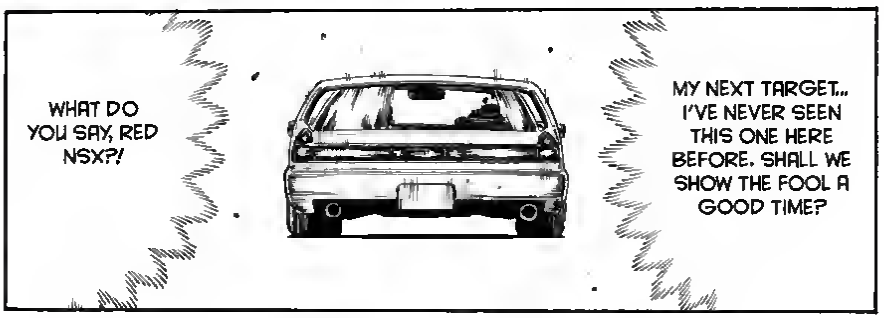
♭ 27 . . . . . Fin


SHUUSH
4:00 AM, ON THE YAGAMI BAYSIDE ROADWAY...


GRRMM

GRRNN


HEH! WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO HOME TO MAMA, PORSCHE! YOU'RE NOT READY YET TO TAKE ON THE G-PHANTOM'S GTR...

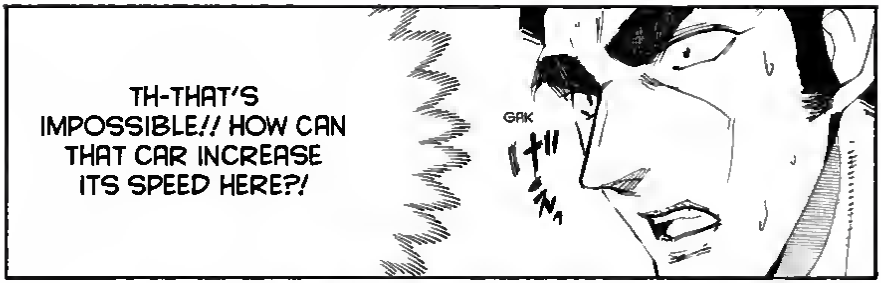

WHAT DO YOU SAY, RED NSX?!
MY NEXT TARGET... I'VE NEVER SEEN THIS ONE HERE BEFORE. SHALL WE SHOW THE FOOL A GOOD TIME?

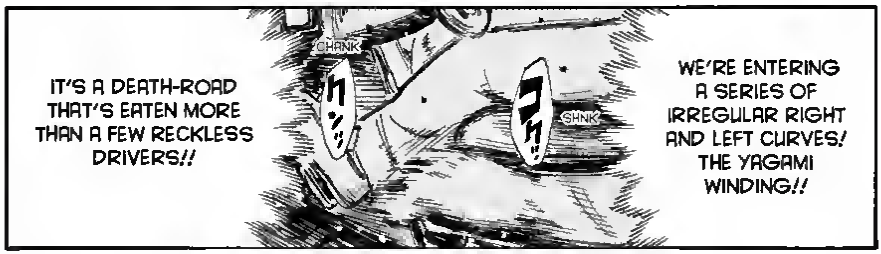
♭28 DAYS OF THUNDER

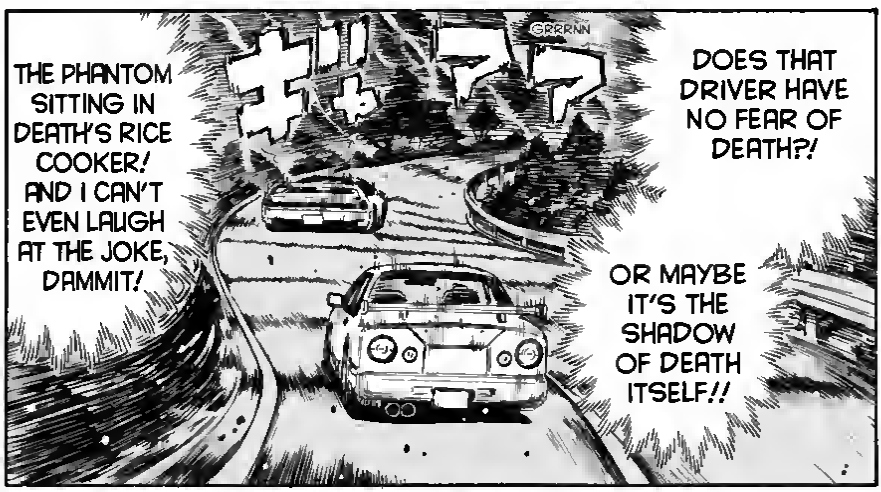
Sasakura Yôko, Osakabe Itoko: A Yagami High School Teacher Pair.

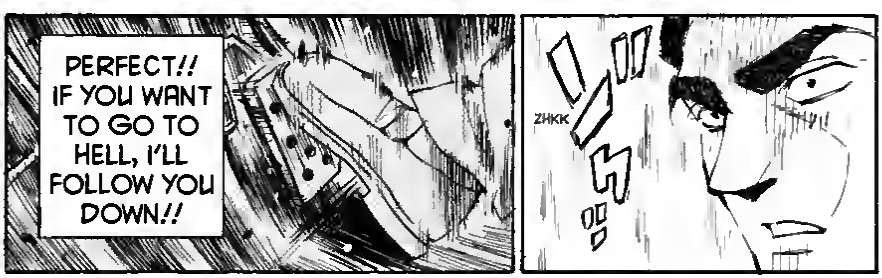
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'LL BE AN UNFORGETTABLE NIGHT FOR US BOTH. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, LOVER?
THIS ONE IS DRIVING AT A SPEED THAT WON'T ALLOW ANY TO CATCH IT. I PICKED A REAL STUBBORN ONE THIS TIME.
HANK
GRNK
GRRNN

Solid Red NSX: Made a Cameo in One of Volume 8's Bonus Manga.


TH-THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!! HOW CAN THAT CAR INCREASE ITS SPEED HERE?!
GAK

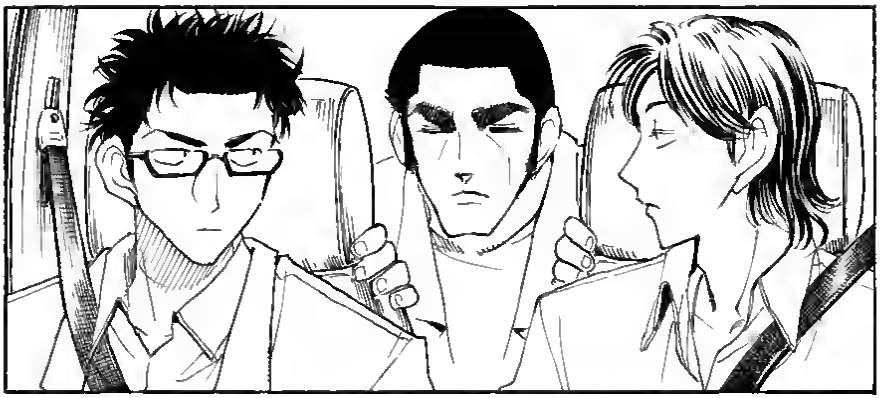

IT'S A DEATH-ROAD THAT'S EATEN MORE THAN A FEW RECKLESS DRIVERS!!
CHANK
SHNK
WE'RE ENTERING A SERIES OF IRREGULAR RIGHT AND LEFT CURVES! THE YAGAMI WINDING!!

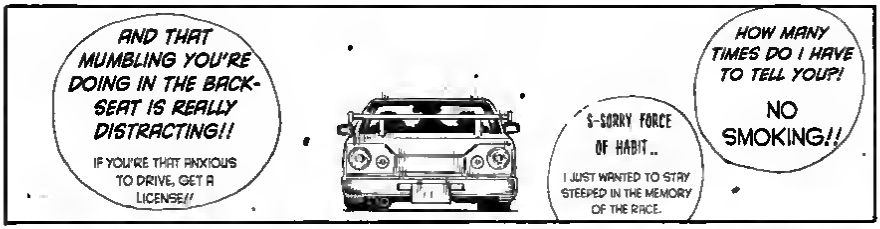

THE PHANTOM SITTING IN DEATH'S RICE COOKER! AND I CAN'T EVEN LAUGH AT THE JOKE, DAMMIT!
GRRRNN
DOES THAT DRIVER HAVE NO FEAR OF DEATH?!
OR MAYBE IT'S THE SHADOW OF DEATH ITSELF!!

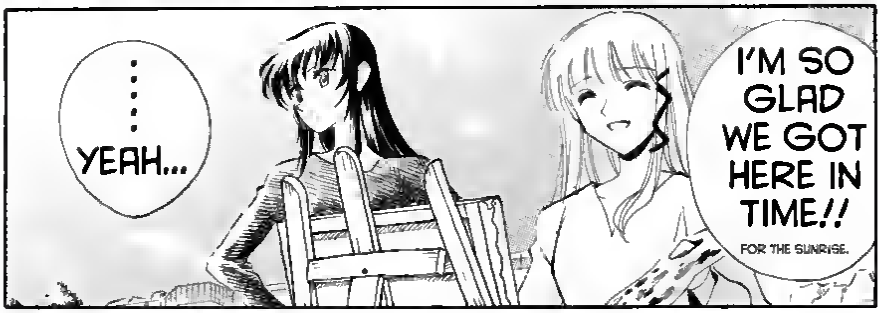

PERFECT!! IF YOU WANT TO GO TO HELL, I'LL FOLLOW YOU DOWN!!
ZHKK

HYAAAAHHHHH!!
SKRRRCH
PERHAPS IT COULDN'T COMPENSATE FOR THE WIND COMING IN OFF THE SEA!!
IS THE DRIVER GIVING ME AN OPENING?! NO... IT WASN'T INTENTIONAL!!
!?
VLUUM
EAT THIS!! THE PHANTOM TURN!!
WHUMP
IT LOOKS LIKE THE WEAKNESS OF ITS TOO-LIGHT ALUMINUM BODY IS REVEALED!!

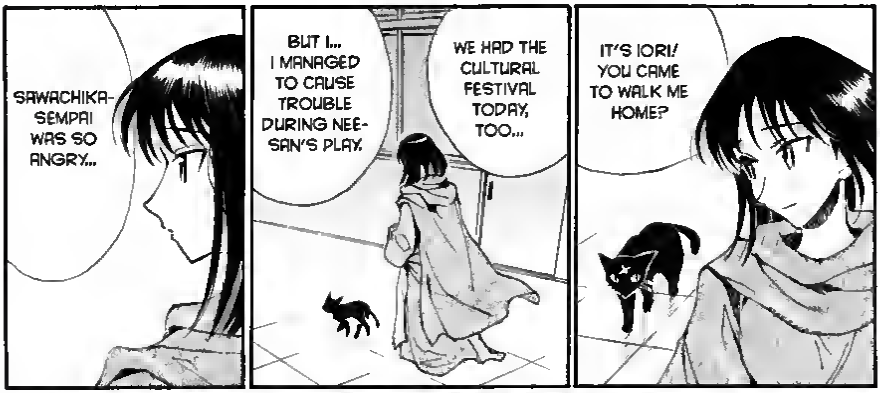
W-WHAT?!
URK!!
GLEEM
チラ!!
ARRGH!! IT'S THE SUN...?!!
FASH
RRTT
SO THAT'S WHAT THE DRIVER INTENDED...
DAMMIT! I CAN'T SEE THE ROAD!!!
SKREEE
RRTT
RRTT
HA! I NEVER THOUGHT SOMEONE LIKE YOU WOULD BE IN YAGAMI. I GUESS YOU ARE WHY I MUST CONTINUE TO ROAM THESE STREETS.
FLCCK
SHHHH
IT WAS A PART OF THE DRIVER'S PLAN...

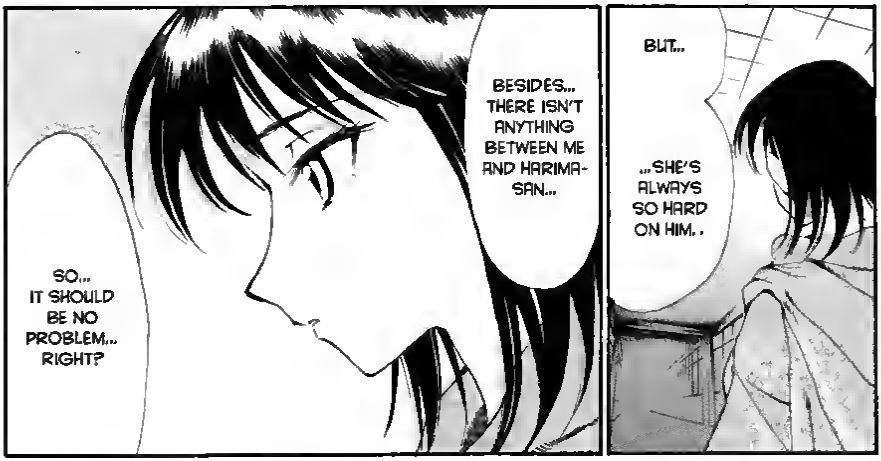



AND THAT MUMBLING YOU'RE DOING IN THE BACK-SEAT IS REALLY DISTRACTING!!
IF YOU'RE THAT ANXIOUS TO DRIVE, GET A LICENSE!!
S-SORRY FORCE OF HABIT..
I JUST WANTED TO STAY STEEPED IN THE MEMORY OF THE RACE.
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?!
NO SMOKING!!


YEAH...
I'M SO GLAD WE GOT HERE IN TIME!!
FOR THE SUNRISE.

♭ 28 . . . . . Fin

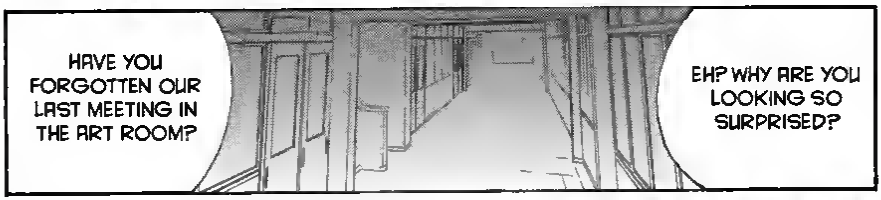

SAWACHIKA-SEMPAI WAS SO ANGRY...
BUT I... I MANAGED TO CAUSE TROUBLE DURING NEE-SAN'S PLAY.
WE HAD THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL TODAY, TOO...
IT'S IORI! YOU CAME TO WALK ME HOME?

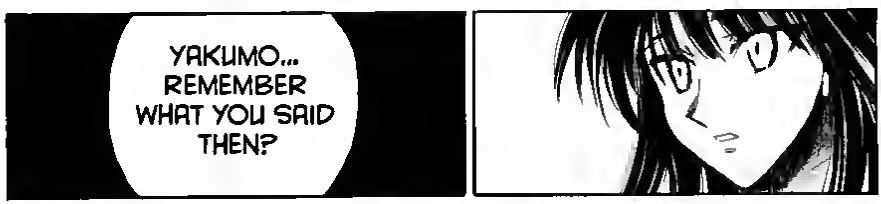


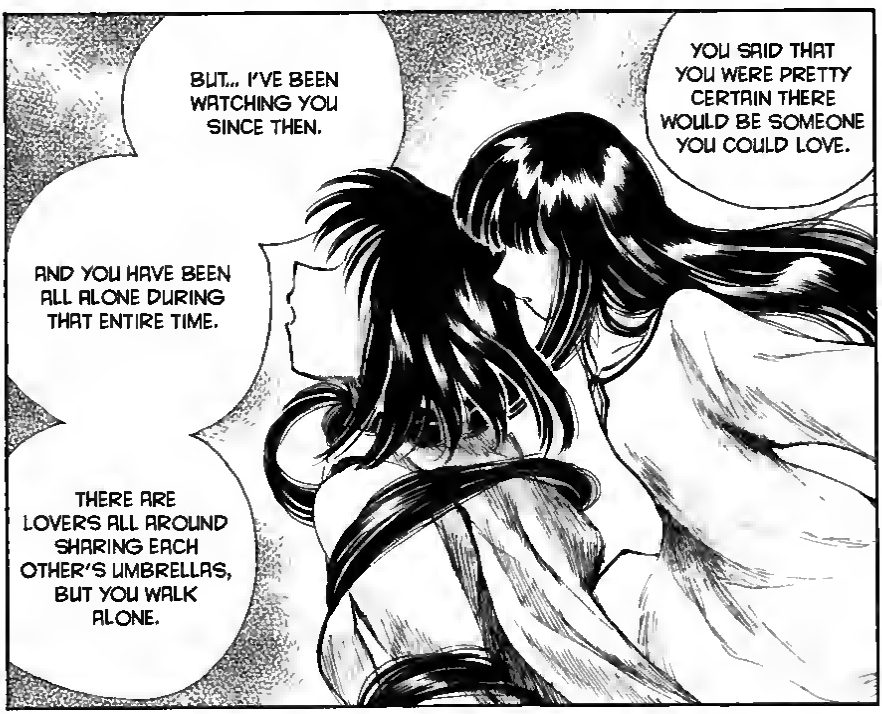
♭29 MISS ANNIE ROONEY

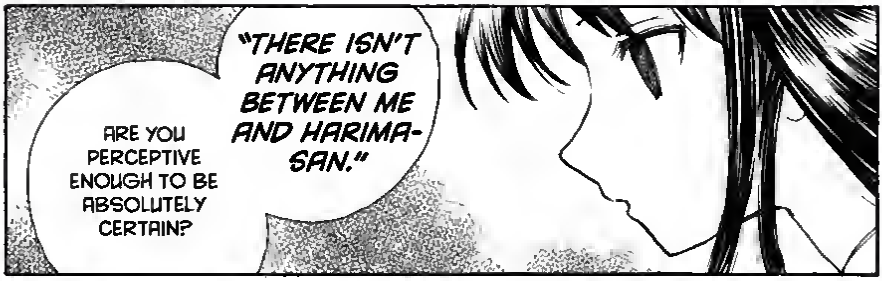
.....?
IORI? IS...SOMEONE THERE?
DMP
AH! IORI...
IORI RAN AWAY...
EH...?

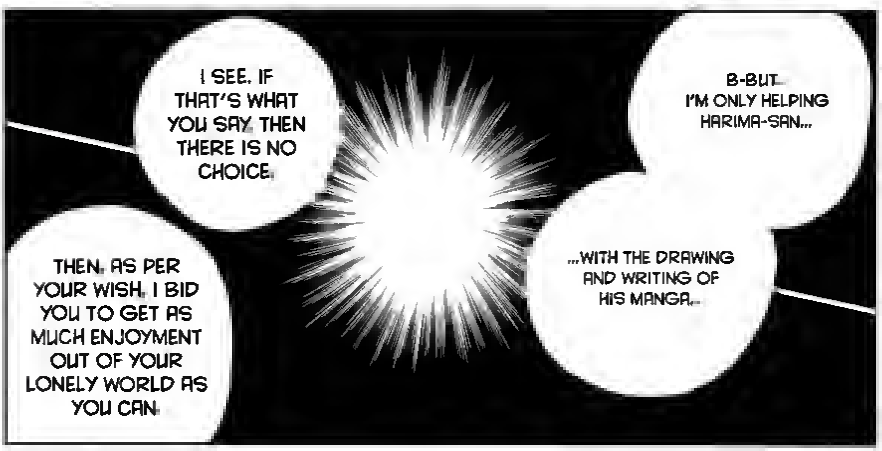
WELL? HAVE YOU ADVANCED SINCE OUR LAST MEETING?


HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN OUR LAST MEETING IN THE ART ROOM?
EH? WHY ARE YOU LOOKING SO SURPRISED?


YAKUMO... REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID THEN?


YOU SAID THAT YOU WERE PRETTY CERTAIN THERE WOULD BE SOMEONE YOU COULD LOVE.
BUT... I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU SINCE THEN.
AND YOU HAVE BEEN ALL ALONE DURING THAT ENTIRE TIME.
THERE ARE LOVERS ALL AROUND SHARING EACH OTHER'S UMBRELLAS, BUT YOU WALK ALONE.

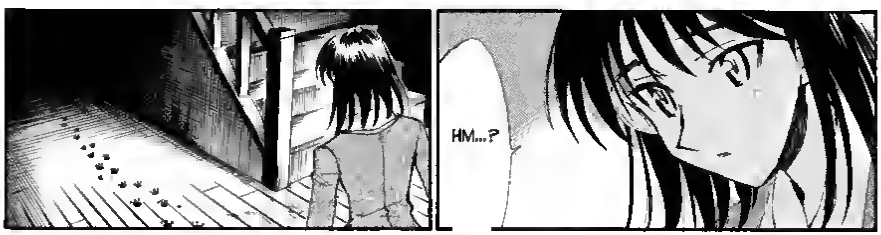

"THERE ISN'T ANYTHING BETWEEN ME AND HARIMA-SAN."
ARE YOU PERCEPTIVE ENOUGH TO BE ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN?


I SEE. IF THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY, THEN THERE IS NO CHOICE.
B-BUT... I'M ONLY HELPING HARIMA-SAN...
...WITH THE DRAWING AND WRITING OF HIS MANGA...
THEN, AS PER YOUR WISH, I BID YOU TO GET AS MUCH ENJOYMENT OUT OF YOUR LONELY WORLD AS YOU CAN.

I BID YOU TO GET AS MUCH ENJOYMENT OUT OF YOUR LONELY WORLD AS YOU CAN.
I CAN'T GO HOME IN THIS...
THE RAIN'S REALLY COMING DOWN HARD...
SHHHH

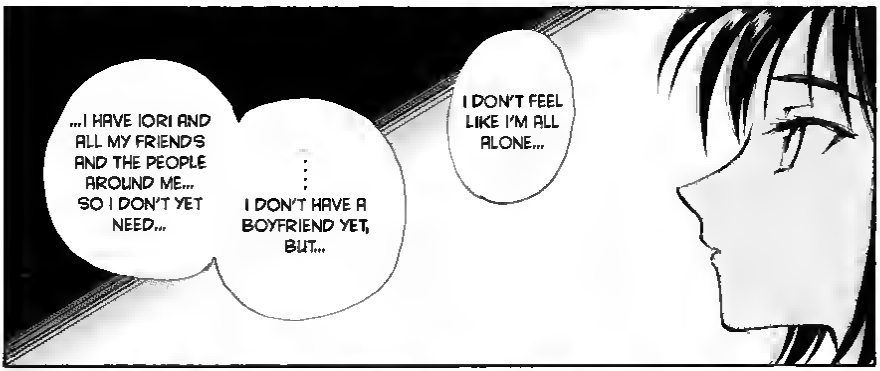
土足厳禁
SST
.....?
DMP
BUT WITH-OUT THIS, YOU'LL..
AH...
WAIT! WHO ARE YOU...?

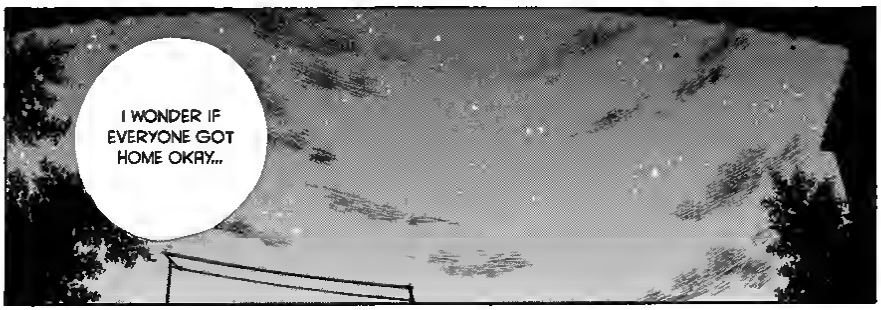
I'M HOME...


HM...?

BUT I DID SEE A TAIL...
IT COULDN'T BE, COULD IT...?
THANK YOU, IORI.

IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S CLEARING UP
GSSH GSSH


I DON'T FEEL LIKE I'M ALL ALONE...
...I HAVE IORI AND ALL MY FRIENDS AND THE PEOPLE AROUND ME... SO I DON'T YET NEED...
I DON'T HAVE A BOYFRIEND YET, BUT...


I WONDER IF EVERYONE GOT HOME OKAY...

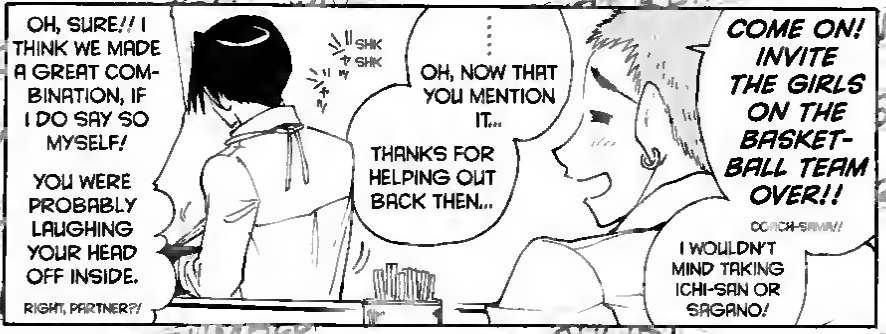
TH-THIS ISN'T... UM... IT'S NOT WHAT IT...!!
BLISH BLISH
YAKUMO... THAT'S MY UMBRELLA...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HOLDING IT?

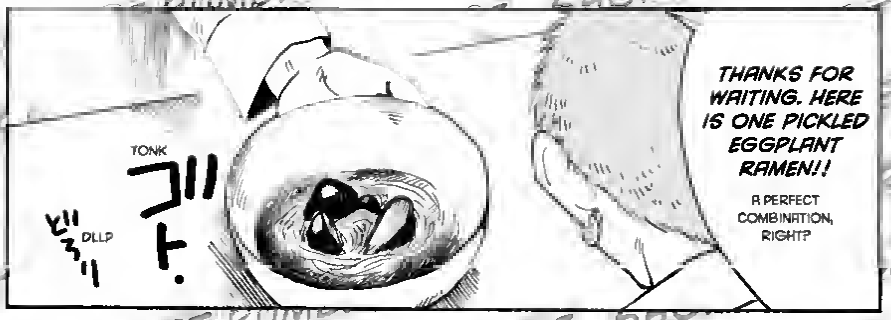
♭29・・・・・・・・・Fin

◇THAT MAN, SUGA◇

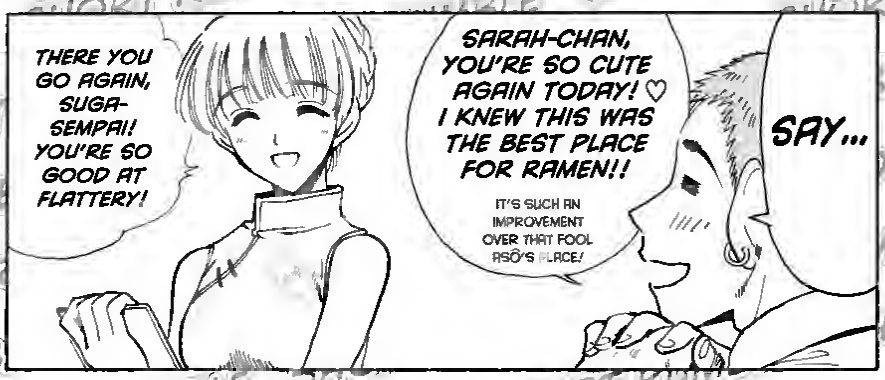
ASÔ-CHAN, MY LOVE!! LET'S WALK HOME TOGETHER!!
YOU'RE ONLY AFTER THE RAMEN IN MY FAMILY'S RESTAURANT.
THE MAN'S NAME IS SUGA RYÛHEI.
A GOOD FRIEND OF ASÔ'S THROUGH THE BASKETBALL TEAM.

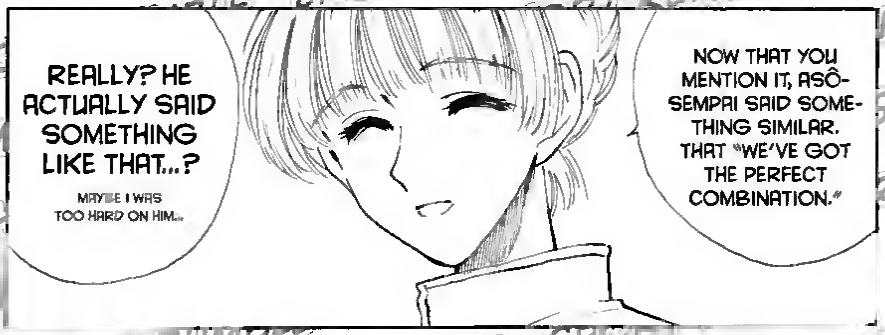
I DOUBT ANY HAVE FALLEN OUT OF THE SKY.
ONE HASN'T FALLEN OUT OF THE SKY, HAS ONE!?
HE TRADES THE FAMOUS PICKLED EGGPLANT THAT HIS FAMILY MAKES FOR FREE RAMEN PROVIDED BY ASÔ'S FAMILY RESTAURANT. HE'S A PITIFUL SPECIMEN WHO CONTINUES TO TARGET THE GIRLS THAT ASÔ ATTRACTS.
AWW!! I WANT A GIRLFRIEND!!
I'M SURPRISED YOU DON'T GET SICK OF DOING THIS. WHAT WITH THE DAILY RAMEN.
DON'T BE AN IDIOT./ YOU AND I ARE A NATURAL COMBO./ YOU AND ME!/ ME AND YOU!/
BUT WHY IS IT THAT YOU GET ALL THE GIRLS?

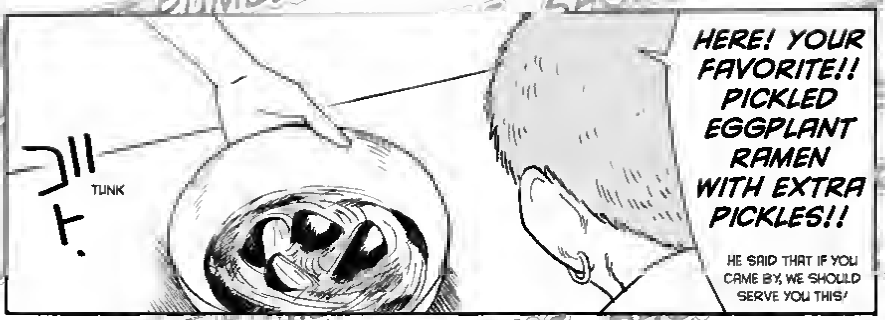

OH, SURE!/ I THINK WE MADE A GREAT COMBINATION, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF!
YOU WERE PROBABLY LAUGHING YOUR HEAD OFF INSIDE.
RIGHT, PARTNER?/
SHIK SHIK
OH, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
THANKS FOR HELPING OUT BACK THEN...
COME ON! INVITE THE GIRLS ON THE BASKETBALL TEAM OVER!!
COACH-SAN!/
I WOULDN'T MIND TAKING ICHI-SAN OR SAGANO!



I CAN'T GET THE TASTE OUT OF MY MOUTH!
KREE
DAMMIT! THAT JERK ASÔ MADE ME EAT SOMETHING REALLY TERRIBLE!!
MAYBE I'LL JUST GO TO MEI-LI RESTAURANT TO CLEANSE THE PALATE.
WHAT DOES HE MEAN BY "PERFECT COMBINATION"?!


THERE YOU GO AGAIN, SUGA-SEMPAI! YOU'RE SO GOOD AT FLATTERY!
SARAH-CHAN, YOU'RE SO CUTE AGAIN TODAY! ♡ I KNEW THIS WAS THE BEST PLACE FOR RAMEN!!
IT'S SUCH AN IMPROVEMENT OVER THAT FOOL ASÔ'S PLACE!
SAY...


REALLY? HE ACTUALLY SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT...?
MAYBE I WAS TOO HARD ON HIM...
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, ASÔ-SEMPAI SAID SOMETHING SIMILAR. THAT "WE'VE GOT THE PERFECT COMBINATION."

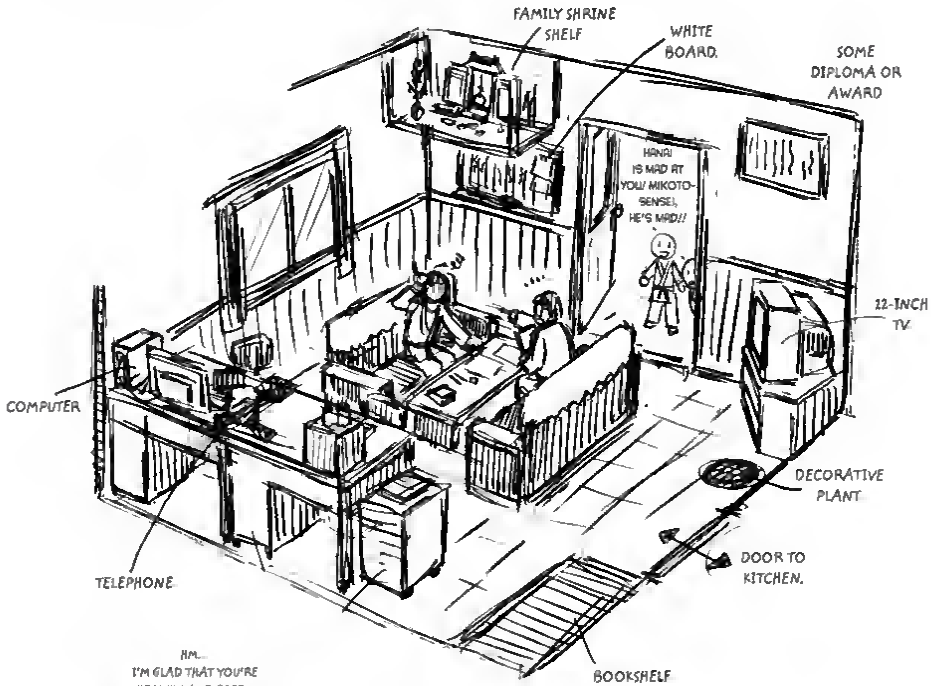


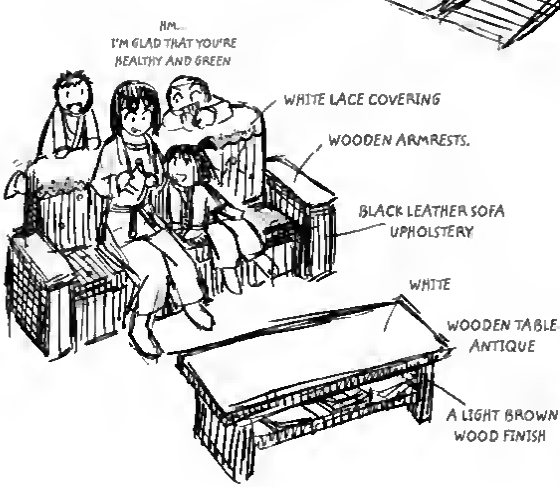
Short Rumble . . . . . Fin

TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 11.

SUÔ HOUSE AND HANAI HOUSE

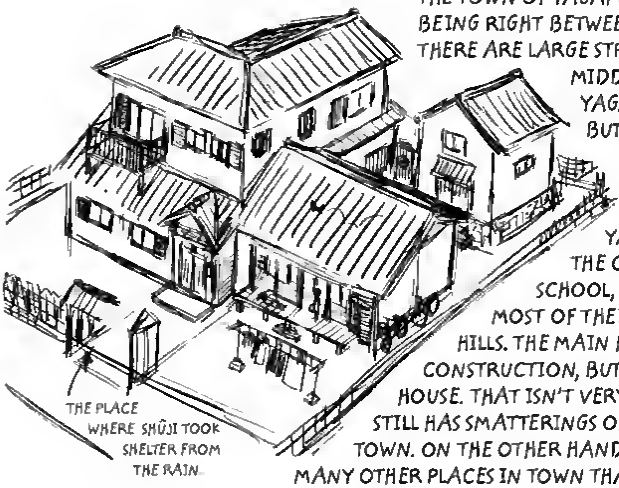
THIS COMES UP EVERY NOW AND AGAIN IN THE MANGA, BUT THE HOUSES OF THE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS, MIKOTO AND HANAI, FACE EACH OTHER. WHEN THEY WERE GRADE-SCHOOL STUDENTS, THEY'D COME OVER AND PLAY IN EACH OTHER'S ROOMS ALL OF THE TIME, BUT THESE DAYS IT HARDLY EVER HAPPENS. THIS ROOM IS USED QUITE A LOT WHEN THE TWO TALK. IT'S THE OFFICE OF THE HANAI DOJO. WHEN DOJO PRACTICE IS OVER, MIKOTO MIGHT PLAY HERE WITH THE CHILDREN, OR WITHOUT BEING ASKED TO DO SO, SHE MAY CORRECT HANAI'S ENGLISH ASSIGNMENTS.

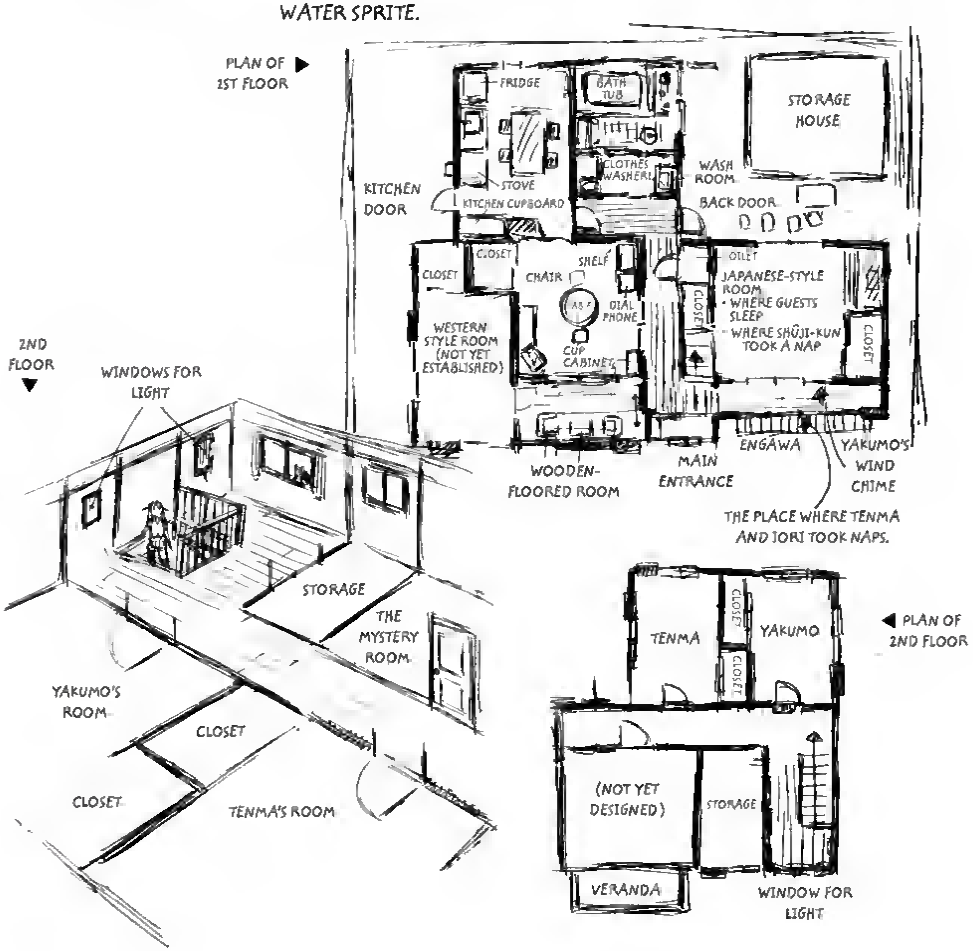


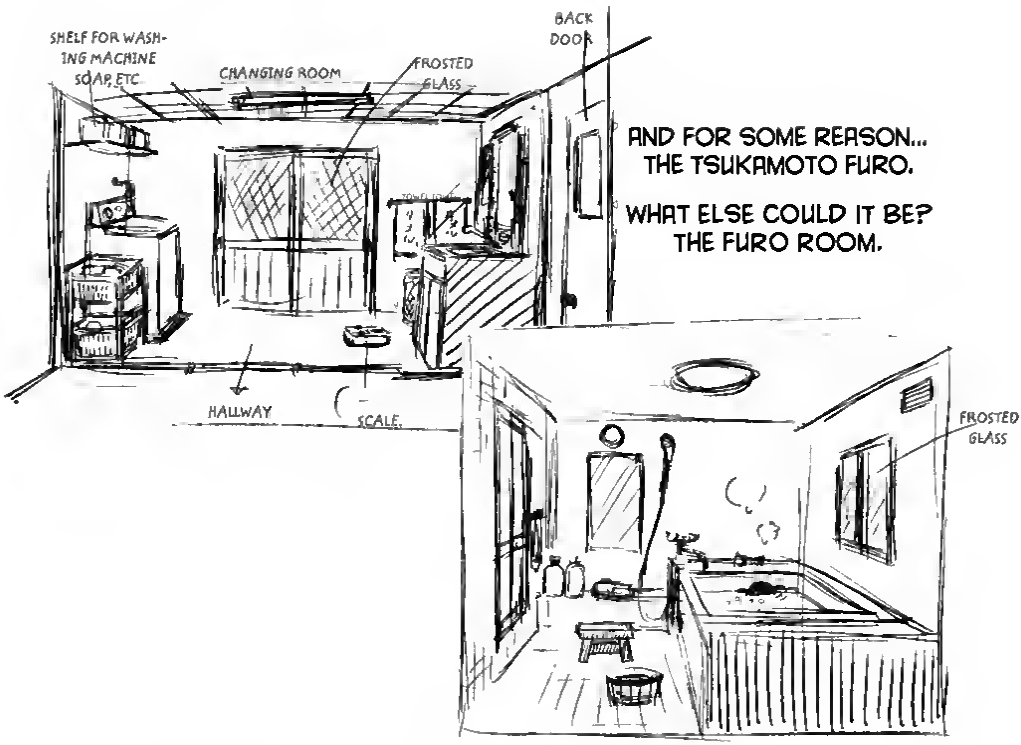


TSUKAMOTO HOUSE

THE TOWN OF YAGAMI HAS MANY HILLS AND VALLEYS, BEING RIGHT BETWEEN THE MOUNTAINS AND THE SEA. THERE ARE LARGE STRETCHES OF GREENERY IN THE MIDDLE OF TOWN SUCH AS NEAR THE YAGAMI SHRINE AND YAGAMI PARK, BUT THE TSUKAMOTO HOUSE IS IN A QUIET SUBURB IN THE WESTERN SIDE OF TOWN. DOWN AN INCLINE FROM THE HOUSE IS THE YAGAMI TRAIN STATION AND UP THE OTHER WAY IS YAGAMI HIGH SCHOOL, SO TENMA AND YAKUMO SPEND MOST OF THEIR DAYS GOING UP AND DOWN HILLS. THE MAIN HOUSE IS OF RELATIVELY NEW CONSTRUCTION, BUT NEXT TO IT IS AN OLD STORAGE HOUSE. THAT ISN'T VERY UNUSUAL FOR YAGAMI, WHICH STILL HAS SMATTERINGS OF HISTORIC PLACES AROUND TOWN. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE PROBABLY AREN'T VERY MANY OTHER PLACES IN TOWN THAT COULD PRODUCE A MUMMIFIED WATER SPRITE.



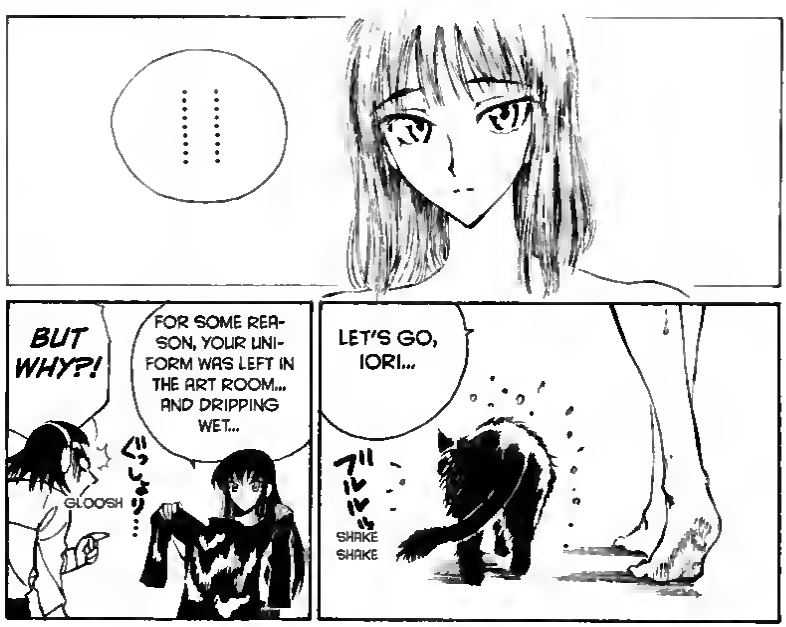




BONUS ♡

THIS IS FROM PAGE 149 OF THIS VOLUME, "♭ 29 MISS ANNIE ROONEY." ACTUALLY THERE WAS A LITTLE MORE STORY TO IT!!

ORIGINAL FOR THIS VOLUME: "THE FURO" MANGA. YAKUMO CHAPTER!!



Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

To You, page 9

In the Japanese version, Harima actually said "to you" in English. The English would be a symbol of just how determined he is. But the same feeling wouldn't come across if I translated it the opposite way and used the Japanese words, "Tenma ni!!" or "Anata ni!!" So we left it as "to you" and hoped the images would convey his singlemindedness.

"MA"ssacre, page 14

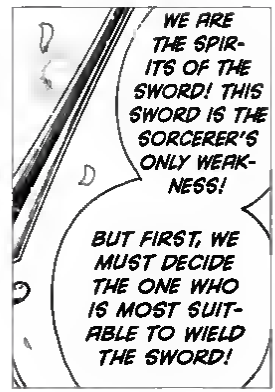
The Japanese version had something similar to the English version. It was an expression, *Goshûshô-sama*, with the final "MA" done in capital roman letters (our alphabet). The sentence is a standard Japanese phrase used at funerals that would correspond to, "My deepest sympathies," in English. But I couldn't find a similar phrase in English that had "m" and "a" together, so I stayed on the "death" theme with the word "massacre." It does pretty accurately reflect Harima's emotions at the time.

BGM, page 15

BGM is a Japanese abbreviation for the English term background music—an abbreviation that has been adopted by Western anime and gaming fan cultures.

The Riddle, page 40

You know this one, right? If not, look up the Riddle of the Sphinx in your local reference library (or on the Internet).

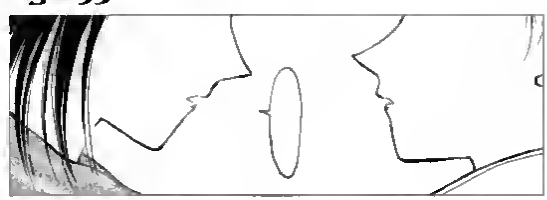

WE ARE THE SPIRITS OF THE SWORD! THIS SWORD IS THE SORCERER'S ONLY WEAKNESS!
BUT FIRST, WE MUST DECIDE THE ONE WHO IS MOST SUITABLE TO WIELD THE SWORD!

Bravo, page 41

This didn't need to be translated. He said "Bravo" in the Japanese version. Technically he should have said "Brava" for the female actors and scriptwriter, but this is still in keeping with the character. Even though Tôgô is always sure of himself, he is certainly not always right.

Yakumo's Answer, page 53

Please do not write in to complain that this vital line was missing from your translation. It was purposely left blank by the author in the Japanese as well.

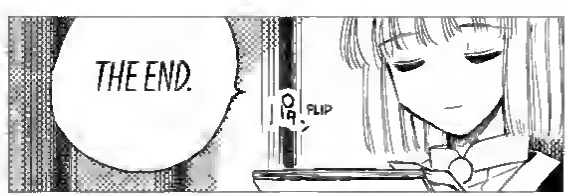


Happily Ever After, page 59

That's a direct translation of the Japanese.

The End, page 59

This isn't a direct translation, although the cultural meaning is exactly the same. The Japanese phrase for



the end of a fairy tale is *medetashi, medetashi*, which means essentially, "happily ever after." Since that sentiment was expressed in the previous panel, and since in English-language fairy tales the next words after "happily ever after" are "The End," I chose to go with the traditional English-language ending.

Okinu, page 59

During the early part of the 20th century, the fashion for women's names switched from beginning the name with an "o" sound to ending the name with "ko." So today, a woman's name starting with an "o" sound comes out as sounding old-fashioned. Megumi took Ayano Kinugawa's last name, shortened it, and added the "o" to the beginning to make the name sound as though it could come out of the time depicted in fairy tales.

Blood, Sweat, and Tears, page 59

He said it exactly that way in Japanese, and in that order.

The One, page 63

The song Ichijô Karen is singing is "The One" by the Backstreet Boys, from their May 1999 album *Millennium*.

Hanging in There, page 77

It wasn't a pun in the original, but it's a valid translation...and you get a free pun out of it. A win-win situation, right? Right?

Names, page 83

Rookie is a *katakana* spelling of the English word. *Okami-san* is used as the title for a female proprietress of Japanese-style restaurants.

Gori, page 84

It's a shortened version of the Japanese pronunciation of "gorilla." It's used in the same vein as the student nickname for the overmuscled gym teacher, Kôriyama, whom they dubbed Goriyama.

Yo Soy Gori, page 84

In the original Japanese Lala said (in *katakana* spelling) the English phrase, "I'm Gori." But since Lala is Mexican, and since part of the idea in the Japanese was to give the line a foreign flavor, I decided to use the more appropriate Spanish phrase with the same meaning. I hope my high school Spanish of several decades ago isn't too far off.

Sonko, page 87

Tae makes the same mistake Tenma did in Volume 1 of seeing the *kanji* for Sun Tsu (usually pronounced *Sonshi* by the Japanese) and mistaking it for a girl's name, Sonko. For the reasons why someone would make that mistake, see the translation notes in Volume 1.

IN MY EXPERIENCE, YOU MUST "KNOW THE ENEMY AND KNOW YOURSELF, THEN YOU NEED NOT FEAR THE RESULT OF A HUNDRED BATTLES."
IT WAS FROM THIS ESSAY BY A WOMAN NAMED SONKO.
GIVE IT ALL YOU'VE GOT, OKAY?

Sa-cchan, page 91

Sa-cchan is a common nickname for Satsuki. Due to linguistic rules of the Japanese language, the "tsu" in the middle of the name disappears and the following consonant is "doubled up." In this instance the following consonant is the "ch" sound for the diminutive honorific "chan," so the full nickname becomes Sa-cchan. The double "c" sound is pronounced very much like Sat-chan.

Aso-chan, page 92

Alert readers might notice that Tenma (and other characters later) left off the long "o" vowel of Asô's name when calling him Aso-chan. It's another way of making a diminutive nickname.

18,000 Yen, page 96

Although, as of the time of this translation, the rate from dollar to yen is about 115 yen to the dollar, a good rule of thumb for a quick approximation is to figure about one penny per yen (100 yen to the dollar). Figuring it that way, 18,000 yen would be about $180.00.

Perverted Kappa Water Sprite, page 103

In the '60s and '70s, a series of commercials by the saké maker, Kizakura, featured animated kappa water sprites. In many of these commercials, the female kappa were nude and male kappa would lust after them. Although the kappa probably had a rabbitlike lustful reputation before the commercials, the saké commercials cemented the aspect of "perverts" onto the reputation of kappa water sprites. (For background on kappa water sprites, see notes for Volume 1.)

Air Jordans, page 104

Although they didn't say the words "Air Jordans" in the Japanese version (he just used the word "Jordan" in *katakana* pronunciation), that was the joke in Japanese, too.

Making Puns, page 106

The original pun was on the similarity between the last name of Michael Jordan and the Japanese word for joke, *jôdan*. Although I don't think Asô meant it as a pun. (Maybe he did...) Since in English, Jordan doesn't equate to anything but a river, I used the idea that sneakers are sometimes called trainers and made a pun out of that.

Manager, page 107

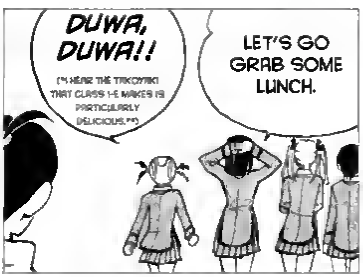
In Japanese high school sports, the manager isn't quite the decision-maker that the title would suggest. It's usually a supporting position, someone who keeps stats and does odd jobs for the team. The position on male sports teams is often delegated to a female student.

Jesus, page 115

There are some manga in which Christianity plays a central theme, but in most manga, as in most of Japanese life, Christianity is a respected but usually ignored foreign religion (of course there are exceptions). In this case, Tôgô Masakazu is using "Jesus" as an exclamation more than anything else.

Shuttle Run, page 116
An indoor running exercise in which runners begin from a starting line, run to pick up one of two wooden blocks sitting behind a line some 30 feet away, then run back to place it behind the starting line, then do the same with the second block.

Bento, page 119
The Japanese word for a boxed lunch.

Takoyaki, page 135


A small piece of fried octopus in a nearly round ball of soft breading about an inch or two in diameter and topped with a special brown sauce and sometimes mayonnaise. Although they've become very popular as a festival or fun-time snack all over Japan, their origins are traced to Osaka and the Kansai area surrounding it.

GTR, page 141
The G-Phantom's car is Nissan's Skyline GT-R R34. A Grand Turismo Racer that was first released in 1999, it was packed with all of the latest technological developments. It could compare with any of the powerhouse sports cars on the road at the time.

NSX, page 141
The Honda (Acura) NSX was a high-speed sports car introduced in 1995 and given a facelift in 2002. The Skyline GT-R and NSX have often been compared in terms of speed and drivability.

Gorô, page 148
This character is similar in name and character design to Gotô, the tough, unflappable hitman of the Golgo 13 series.

Chinese Food: Ramen, page 157
In America, when one thinks of Chinese food, one tends to think of wok-based dishes such as cashew chicken or sweet and sour pork,

either that or dim sum. However, in Japan if you ask to be directed to a Chinese restaurant, it will more often than not be a place that serves ramen. Although most Chinese restaurants also serve many other dishes, to the Japanese mind, Chinese food is mainly associated with ramen, gyoza (pot stickers), and fried rice.

Engawa, page 160

In more traditional Japanese homes, there is usually a small wooden walkway outside southern-facing rooms where one can sit and enjoy the outdoor air and view. This walkway or deck is called an *engawa*. It's about chair-seat height from the ground outside, and it is usually on the southern side because that is where the afternoon light hits. However, it is possible for an *engawa* to be on any side of the building.

Furo, page 161

A *furo* is a Japanese bath. One does not clean oneself within the tub itself. That is used only for soaking. The area outside the tub is used to wash oneself using a showerhead or a faucet and buckets. Normally one sits on a small stool in front of the mirror and low faucet, and that's where one soaps up and rinses off (taking care not to get any suds in the bathtub). After a complete rinse, one may then climb into the bath to soak. A Japanese *furo* is much taller than a Western bathtub and the Japanese fill it with hotter water than is normal for Western tastes. Therefore, due to the expense of filling a tub with a lot of very hot water, the *furo* is filled only once a night, and all members of the household use it in order of seniority. The "washroom" outside the *furo* usually contains a sink and mirror, a place to put one's clothes while in the *furo*, and often the washing machine.